

# THE VALLEY FARMER.

A Monthly Journal of Agriculture, Horticulture, Education and Domestic Economy, Adapted To the Wants of the People of the Mississippi Valley.

VOL. VII.

SAINT LOUIS, APRIL, 1855.

NO. 4.

## The Valley Farmer.

WOODWARD & ABBOTT, PUBLISHERS.

EPHRAIM ABBOTT, Editor.

OFFICE 218 BROADWAY AND 203 FOURTH STREET T.  
(between Franklin Avenue and Morgan street.)  
Entrance on Fourth street,  
ST. LOUIS, MO.

### TERMS.

THE VALLEY FARMER is published on the first of each month, each number containing 48 large octavo pages (including 8 pages devoted to advertisements of matters of interest to farmers,) and is offered at the following rates:—

Single copy, one year, ————— \$1 00  
Five copies, \$3; seven copies, \$5; Fifteen copies, \$10  
[Payments, in all cases, must be made in advance.—  
Remittances in gold coins, current bank notes, or postage stamps, may be made by mail at our risk.]

Agents.—Postmasters and Merchants throughout the country are authorized to act as Agents, and every friend of the enterprise is respectfully requested to aid in extending its circulation.

ADVERTISING.—Advertisements are inserted in the ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT of the Valley Farmer at the following rates:—One insertion of 12 lines, \$1; each additional insertion, 50 cents; 12 lines one year \$6; each additional 12 lines one year, \$4; one page, one insertion, \$7; each additional insertion, \$5; one page, yearly, \$60; less than one page or less, one year, \$5.

### REMOVAL.

The office of the Valley Farmer is removed to the four story building No. 218 Broadway, and 203 Fourth street, between Morgan street and Franklin avenue, two doors below Jefferson Hall; entrance No. 203 Fourth street. The Editor of the Farmer may be found at the office at all times when not absent from the city.

On and after April 1st, 1855, all letters sent by mail must be pre-paid.

We must again defer our list of letters till next month.

### Legislative Aid to Agricultural Societies.

At the late session of the legislature of this State, the following law was passed which we think will have a very good effect in encouraging the formation of county Agricultural Societies, and adding to the usefulness of those already organized. We shall expect to find that very many of the counties which have not hitherto moved in the matter of forming county societies will take measures to do so forthwith. There are very few counties in the State which cannot raise three hundred dollars, by a little exertion on the part of a few individuals. But let it be borne in mind that while every farmer should feel the responsibility of acting himself in the matter, there are but a few who will do so; so that it should be no cause of discouragement that but few will be found engaged in the preparatory work. Go on; make preparations for a first rate fair, and rely upon it that when the time comes, many of those who have declined doing anything will be moved by interest, enthusiasm or curiosity to become members of the society.

### A Bill to Encourage Agriculture.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

1. Whenever there has been or shall be formed in any county of this State, an Agricultural society, composed of one or more counties fully organized, and said society shall have collected from its members or other sources, the sum of three hundred dollars, and the same shall have been deposited with the Treasurer, or proper officer of said society; then upon a statement to that effect upon oath, made by the President and Secretary of said

society, to the Auditor of public accounts, it shall be his duty to draw his warrant, on the Treasurer in favor of said President, for the sum of one hundred dollars, payable out of any monies in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

2. If said society shall collect and deposit with the Treasurer or other officers, as stated in the first section of this act, the sum of three hundred dollars additional, then the Auditor shall draw his warrant upon a certificate to that effect as stated in the first section of this act, for the additional sum of one hundred dollars as hereinbefore directed. And for every additional sum of three hundred dollars, collected and deposited as herein before stated, the Auditor shall draw his warrant for one hundred dollars additional on the Treasurer, as in the first section directed.

3. The amount thus drawn from the Treasury, shall in no instance to any county society, exceed three hundred dollars, nor more than one hundred dollars in any one year.

4. The money thus drawn from the State shall in no case be expended by said society, for any purpose whatever except in premiums for articles exhibited at its annual fairs.

5. It shall be the duty of the president and secretary of said society, to make annually to the Auditor of public accounts, a statement of the manner in which said monies, so drawn from the State treasury, shall have been expended.

This act to take effect from and after its passage.

Approved February 28th, 1855.

A true copy.

JOHN M. RICHARDSON,

Secretary of State.

### From the Papers.

**OXEN vs. HORSES.**—The Massachusetts Plowman says that oxen may be worked about eight hours in a day, while horses will work ten when they are kept principally on grain. Yet this does not decide the question about ox labor. Oxen are kept torough the winter on cheaper food than horses, and they are more easily yoked and unyoked. One chain answers for two oxen, but four chains are wanted for two horses. All the gearing for oxen is less costly than that for horses—and its simplicity is such that an Irishman may understand it.

Oxen are less liable to disease and are more gentle than horses. Oxen well train-

ed need no driver in plowing and no leading reins. Two yoke of oxen are harnessed and unharnessed as soon as one pair of horses. Oxen move more slowly than horses, and this is a recommendation on all rough and stony grounds. Finally oxen make better beef than horses, and when they accidentally break a limb, the whole animal is saved.

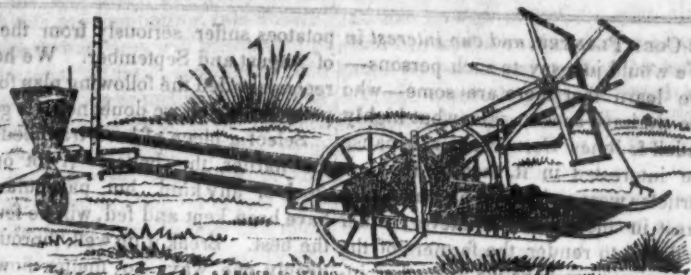
### RANDALL AND JONES' CORN PLANTER.

The same paper has a communication from W. J. LITCHFIELD, who says the machine is constructed upon the only safe principle of planting by machinery, viz., the "tongue and tube." No reliance whatever can be placed in thrusting the seed into the ground on the end of a slide or tongue. It will slide off, and, if a stone is encountered, the corn is crushed. Neither can you rely upon the principle of the bare tongue, or slide, entering the ground, and drawing up and trusting to falling in of the seed before the earth does. It is not a safe principle, as experiment proves.

But Randall and Jones' machine is safe, accurate and simple. The tongue is sheathed to its end in a nicely fitting tube, as seen in the black points in the cut. Thus sheathed, it enters the ground, presses the soil beneath it, making a moist bed for seed; it is then raised by pressing down the lever, permitting the seed to fall through the tube, which remains in the earth, keeping it out until the corn is safely deposited; the tongue then returns, sets the corn into its bed, and leaves the ground as it entered it, sheathed in the tube, permitting the soil to fall in and cover, which is safely done, if soil be in good condition.

But if the earth "packs," because of dampness, or hardness, you have but to touch the points, [the tongue and tube] by the side of the hole, and the covering is secured beyond all question. All this work is accomplished by one motion of the hands down and up. With the double machine one man can plant, in good soil, ten acres per day with ease. Let the farmers try it.

This Planter is for sale at the Valley Farmer office.



RUGG'S PATENT SQUARE DRAFT REAPER.

This machine is for sale by Wm. M. Plant & Co. 14 Main Street. It is warranted to cut from one to two acres of wheat or other small grains per hour; to save three-fourths of all wheat that is matted by ordinary cradling; that the raking can be done by a person riding on the machine, and that it will cut from three to fifteen inches in height.

### Potato Rot.

Below we publish a letter from Mr. W. Fugate, of Kinderhook, Illinois, in which he states that he has discovered a preventative and remedy for the disease of the potato, so generally dreaded. The letter will explain itself. We can only add our hope that the discovery may be fairly tried, and that it will be found to be what Mr. Fugate represents it, and that the Legislature of Massachusetts will be as ready to give him the "reward," mentioned thereunto, as if he were a citizen of that State.—*Hannibal Mess.*

THE TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS REWARD CLAIMED.

*Messrs. Editors:*—I noticed an article in your most excellent paper, of the 15th of February, stating that the Legislature of Massachusetts had offered a reward of ten thousand dollars for the discovery of the cause of the potato disease, known as the "potato rot." I claim the reward gentlemen; for I can tell you the cause, and show you a remedy that, if you will please to follow my directions, I am very certain will cure the rot, and enable you to raise potatoes that will have no blight in them. In the first place, plant early, and cultivate them well until the plants commence to blossom, at which time lay them by, etc. In the second place the rot is produced by a bug called the "potato bug," which bug is produced from

the vines of the potato. These bugs never appear until the vines are shedding their blows. This is a happy thing for the farmer; for, if they came otherwise, there would be no preventative against their ravages. But the potato by this time has received its generative properties from the flower. The flower nor the vine is no longer necessary to the producing and enlargement of the roots; therefore I recommend as a remedy—to mow the vines all off, being careful to leave some three or four inches above the ground. There should be no leaves left on the stubs, and then keep the hills clean, and the bugs will soon leave you. I have tried this plan for the last two years with great success. The first year I cut my vines, it was done more through vegetation at the bugs than any thing else; but to my great surprise, when the usual digging time arrived, I had as fine potatoes as I had ever raised.

Last year, while mowing off the vines, I left two rows unmowed for the bugs, as an experiment. Those two rows produced, which were full of rot, while the others were perfectly sound. The beets stopped growing, and were of no use, and the tomatoes had a similar rot to that of the potatoes. This has led me to believe that these bugs deposit a poison of a blighting nature in every vegetable they they bite. *W. FUGATE.*

**THE CORN PLANTER**, and our interest in it.—We would just say to such persons—and we learn that there are some—who suppose we have spoken somewhat highly of Randall & Jones' Corn Planter, because we are interested in it, that at the time those articles were written we had no earthly interest in the article whatever, other than a desire to render the farmers of the west a service: nor have we any other interest now, nor do we expect to have any, except that the gentlemanly agent has left a quantity of them at our office for sale for the accommodation of our friends. We have never spoken of anything in any higher terms than we honestly thought it deserved, nor will we ever do it. The Valley Farmer will never be prostituted to such base purposes.

### POTATOES.

This article bears a very high price in this vicinity, and it becomes a question of much importance to all, how the most can be made of a little seed. A few years ago there was considerable discussion in our paper and some others as to the economy of planting small potatoes instead of large ones. This year we apprehend that all sizes will be planted, for we presume no one who has large potatoes will think of eating them while they command present prices, or rejecting the small ones because they are small. Hon. B. Bond, who has recently commenced the publication of the *Calumet of Peace*, at Carlisle, Ill., thus speaks of the early planting of the potatoe in this climate:

"Early planting gives the only sure crop of this desirable article of food in this meridian. In a period of ten years' trial, by planting in the latter days of February or early days of March, we have failed but once to produce a fair yield. We are also informed that Mr. David Pardee, an intelligent, observant and successful farmer of this vicinity, that with him, early planting produces the only sure yield."

We have never known the early crop of potatoe to fail in this climate, while late

potatoes suffer seriously from the drouths of August and September. We have seen recommended the following plan for raising potatoes, which we doubt not is a good one:

Select a piece of hard trampled ground, the harder the better. A lot on which stock of any kind, but particularly hogs, have been kept and fed, will be found to be the best. Break it up well; thoroughly and deeply one way, no matter how cloddy; and do not harrow it any, but let the clods remain unbroken. The ground being thus broken one way, lay it off into rows the other way, or across the plowing, two and a half or three feet apart. Open these with a plow, running it back in the same furrow, so as to open the trench as widely and deeply as possible; cut all the large seed potatoes so as to have a sufficiency of eyes on each piece. Then drop them in about six inches apart. Now fill the trench with straw or chaff, or if neither of these can be obtained, with leaves from the woods or trash of some sort. This is very important to a successful cultivation of the potato, not as is generally supposed, because it gives the potato room to grow and expand in, (though this is of some importance) but because as we have shown, it furnishes it with a kind of bed or nursery to grow in. We do not deny that it may receive some nutriment from the decomposing straw but then it must be entirely different from that afforded by soil, as the straw must be entirely decomposed before it can enter into the composition of soil. The trenches thus filled may be covered with the plow, and the "middles entirely broken by the plow to the ridges, so as to leave a furrow only between each. Two workings, a weeding, and then afterwards at the proper time a hilling up, each aided by the plow about twice between each row, will generally complete the cultivation.

In very fine or richly pulverized soils the potato is apt to go to vine too much, or to have too much top, and hence a very luxuriant crop of vines or tops, will be accompanied by a very poor turn out of potatoes. This is because the soil furnishes too



much of the nutriment necessary for the vine, and this predominating, that absorbed from the atmosphere will be carried to support the tops. For this reason you need not regard the clods or turf put on the ridges by the plow, in planting, as the potatoes will find their way through. The clods and the straw act as neutralizers of this disposition to run to vine. For late potatoes it is better to plant in low and moist situations, as they are apt to fail in dry seasons; and the trenches instead of being filled with straw, should be filled with green vegetation of some sort, as green wheat or rye straw. The common May weed or dog fennel is said to be fine. If filled with dead straw, &c., it should be thoroughly wet when put in. As the potato always grows, or is formed above the seed, that should always be placed at the bottom of the trench, and the straw placed above.

#### An Omnibus Talk.

A day or two since we rode to the Arsenal in one of those plebian coaches—the Omnibus—and happened to meet with a gentleman whom we had known for several years as an intelligent and successful horticulturist. We fell into conversation at once on the subject of fruit and fruit growing, and as in the course of our ride allusion was made to many subjects which interested us and may perhaps interest some of our readers, we have noted a few items. Our first topic was upon

**GRAFTING THE NATIVE GRAPE.**—Our friend stated that he had been grafting several of the inferior varieties of grape upon the wild vine stocks, with, as he believes, decided advantage. His theory is that the native vine grows more rapidly and consequently sends up more sap than any of the imported vines; hence the vine is more thrifty, and matures its fruit more rapidly than under other circumstances. Thus it escapes the rot—a diseased condition of the grape, brought on by lack of sufficient nourishment of the right kind to enable the growing fruit to resist the humid condition of the atmosphere. Grafts thus set in the spring had made a large growth and pro-

duced considerable fruit the same season, and had no sign of rot, the fruit ripening some two weeks earlier than the same varieties on the natural stock. This is the theory and these the facts as stated by our informant, as what he had seen himself. Is the theory correct? Can the facts be contradicted?

**EVER-BEARING STRAWBERRIES.**—Considerable notice has for a few years past been taken of a variety of strawberry originated at the South which possesses bearing qualities through the summer, but our informant asserts that any variety may be made to produce fruit for several months through the season if properly managed. His plan is to make a deep bed of sand and vegetable mold, say three parts of the former to one of the latter, excluding all animal and mineral manures. In this set the plants, and if you desire fruit rather than vines, your wishes will be gratified, and by the addition of a little purely vegetable manure, carefully worked into the bed occasionally, your plants will continue to bear for several months. Is this so? We have long been of the opinion that too much manure is almost universally applied to strawberry beds, and although the directions found in most works on the cultivation of this most delicious fruit, may be very correct when adopted on the barren and worn out soils of the eastern and northern States, yet with us they are nearly all of them "blind guides."

We are gratified to announce to our readers a CATHARTIC PILL, (of which see advertisement in our columns,) from that justly celebrated Physician and Chemist, Dr. J. C. ARZU. His Cherry Pectoral, everywhere known as the best remedy ever offered to the Public for Coughs, &c., has prepared them to expect that any thing from his laboratory would be worthy of attention. As no one medicine is more universally taken than a Physical Pill, the public will be glad to know of one from such a trust, worthy source. We happen to know, and can assure them that this article has intrinsic merits, fully equal to any compound that has ever issued from his Crucibles, and consequently is well worthy a trial whenever such a medicine becomes necessary.—*Racine Com. Adv.*

### To Correspondents.

**Premiums.**—L. M. W. Ashley, Mo.—We do not offer in our prospectus, to give four copies of our paper for three dollars, and then give an extra copy to the getter up of the club, and give a premium besides. This would be too liberal. We give a premium of twenty-five cents to the person sending three dollars for four copies of the Farmer.

**Gophers.**—J. B., Andrew Co. Mo.—We do not know of any means of getting rid of these vermin, or preventing their depredations, except treating them to a dose of medicine—strychnine, for instance. Do any of our subscribers know any other way to get rid of them?

### The Wheat Crop.

We have taken some pains to learn from different sections of the Great Valley the condition of the growing wheat crop. All concur in stating that it looks well now, but that the cold, dry weather of March has injured it to some extent, and that it greatly needs rain. We have not been able to ascertain anything definite as to the breadth of land sown last fall to wheat, but are inclined to think fully as much as usual was sown, and probably rather more, but in Ohio it appears to be different, as the Ohio Cultivator publishes letters from various counties in Ohio, embracing the principal wheat growing sections, and the letters all concur in saying that the breadth of ground covered with wheat is from one-third to one-fourth less than average. This accounted for by the fact that the long drought of last summer and fall prevented the plowing of sod lands, and fall sowing was therefore confined to stubble and corn lands. Report will be had as far as possible, to the sowing of spring wheat; but as the growing of that variety of wheat has not been common in Ohio, seed is scarce.

The Chicago Tribune learns from a gentleman who has traveled pretty extensively through the States of the northwest during the past six weeks, that the prospect of the wheat crop was never better. In Iowa, a

large quantity has been sown, but so great is the emigration to that State, and so rapidly did it fill up last season, that a large portion of the surplus will be required for the new settlers there and in Kansas and Nebraska.

Throughout Illinois, it is represented that the crop never looked better. The high prices of the last few years, and the almost certainty that there will be but little abatement during the present year, have stimulated the farmers to sow to an extent beyond former precedent. And the same may be said of Wisconsin. The prospect there is, that the abundant crop of last year will be succeeded by one equally as good as this.

### The Peach Crop.

An examination of the peach buds in this neighborhood, in various localities, indicates, that most of the peaches have been destroyed by cold weather. This fruit will therefore be scarce next season.—*Iowa Farmer.*

Mr. Asa Clement, of Dracut, nurseryman, informs us that there is no doubt about the peach crop in this section. The buds are entirely destroyed by the frost. We have made frequent inquiries of others and received similar replies.—*Granite Farmer.*

We have examined many peach buds in this vicinity and through many are killed we think enough remain uninjured to produce a large crop of fruit.

**THE BRINLEY PLOW—what is it?**—Under the captivating head of "Old Kentucky Farmer!" the Louisville Courier states that last fall Mr. Wm. Stringfield, of Shelby county, challenged the world to a plowing match, in which the celebrated Brinley plow made in Simpsonville, was pitted against any of other manufacture or patent. The wager was one thousand dollars, with two hundred and fifty as forfeit. Mr. A. M. Jemmenson, of Ohio, accepted the challenge, and North Bend, in that State, was selected as the place for the match. Every preparation was made for the encounter, but Mr. J. having seen and examined the Brinley plow, thought it was more advisable to withdraw from the contest than to enter where defeat would be a certainty.

He accordingly paid over the forfeit (\$250) and left the field to the Brinley plow. This is another signal triumph for the patent of our friend Brinley."

**THE HULL OF THE CASTOR BEAN POISONOUS.**—Few persons are probably aware that the shell or outer covering of the castor bean is very poisonous—yet such we are assured is the fact. We have been told an instance where a dryman who found a few beans on his dray after he had hauled a load to the factory, and gave them to his horses to physic them, found one of them dead the next morning and the other nearly so. A year or two ago some emigrants on their passage from New Orleans to this city took some beans from some sacks of the article on freight, and made soup of them, supposing them to be like other beans. The consequence was that the cholera broke out among them very suddenly. Farmers who raise Castor Beans should be very careful not to let them get among their fodder.

### Spring Wheat.

Under the high price of flour, it is advisable to sow spring wheat to a greater extent than usual. Where there is no danger of the midge (miscalled weevil) it will be best to sow it as soon as the ground is fit to plow—or dry enough not to bake. Lightish land which was cultivated last season, will do as well for wheat not to be plowed at all, but worked over well with the cultivator and harrow. Wheat needs a firm bottom. Two bushels of seed to the acre, broadcast is required. Our own experience has shown that even more than this quantity is better than less.

There are several varieties of spring wheat. *The Black Sea*, said to have been brought from Odessa many years ago, has done well in Maine, Vermont, and Northern New York. *The Tea* wheat was also introduced into Maine many years ago. The same kind, as we infer from the name and history and appearance of the grain, has lately been cultivated considerably in Central New York, where it seems to have succeeded well. We

notice the reception of a sample a few weeks since from Mr. Bliven, of Oneida county, N. Y. If we remember rightly, it was formerly considered in Maine of better quality, when in perfection than the Black Sea variety, but less certain in yield. *The Club* wheat is a spring variety, introduced from Canada, but we do not know its origin. We have known it yield largely, but should think it rather coarser in quality than the kinds before mentioned, and more subject to rust. Of late, we have seen frequent notices of the *Fife* wheat, said to have derived its name from the man who introduced it into Canada, and who obtained it from a Russian vessel at Glasgow. This according to representations in the Canadian agricultural papers, is the best spring wheat known in those provinces. We know of none in this part of the country, but it could probably be had at the Montreal seed stores.—*Boston Cultivator*.

This crop has been repeatedly tried in Indiana, but has been, so far as we know very generally abandoned; nor are we aware that it is cultivated to any considerable extent in any section of the country where Fall wheat can be grown successfully. It is only when the latter fails that it is found valuable. The yield is sometimes good, but the flour made of it, is dark, and the bread dark and clammy. Spring wheat requires to be sown earlier than any other crop—never, in this latitude, later than the month of March.—*Indiana Farmer*.

### SOWING CORN FOR FODDER—GOOD NEWS.

*Eps. Rural*.—Much has been said about sowing corn for feed, and I think it a subject worthy of the attention of every farmer. I have practiced it for the last six years. The corn is ready to cut just in the pinch for feed in August and September, and will be found very valuable for feeding cows. The last summer was very hot and dry, but all through the dog days my butter came just as hard and nice as it did in June. I kept but two cows that gave milk, and from them I have sold 341 2-4 lbs. of butter (for \$63.35) besides what butter, milk and cream we used in the family, and 45 lbs. reserved for winter use. My cows came in about the 1st of May, and are dry now. I fattened one calf worth \$4, and raised two, one bought of a neighbor. My family was equal to six persons steadily.—*Cors. Rural New Yorker*.

For the Valley Farmer.

ARKADIA, Mo. March 1855.

MR. ABBOTT—Sir:—At the suggestion of a friend I have translated some of Virgil's first *Georgica*, where he gives us his opinion or rather his system of cultivating land,—not for adoption, of course, but for the gratification of those who wish to compare the state of agriculture in the height of Roman prosperity, and the present. If you think it will do any good by familiarizing any of your readers with the science of their calling (for I deem agriculture a science, and the chief one to be chosen for happiness,) I say if you think it likely to do good and feel so disposed, you can give it a place in your excellent and highly useful periodical. I do not give it as an elegant translation, but almost literally and as intelligibly as may be. After invoking the several deities, &c., he thus begins:

"Very early in the spring when the melted snow flows from the hoary mountains, and the mellow earth crumbles at zephyrs—even then let my steers begin to groan at the plow, deep in the earth, and let the plowshare begin to grow bright in the furrow. That harvest will finally respond to the vows of the anxious farmer, which has twice felt the sun and twice the cold [i. e. which has lain two years,] his immense harvest will almost burst his barns. Before we cut the plain whose qualities are unknown to us, there must be a care to learn the winds and various nature of the climate, and also the culture of our fathers, and the habits of different soils—what each region will bear, and what refuse—here vines—there grains more luxuriantly grow—the nurseries of trees elsewhere, and herbs spontaneous rise."

After enumerating several instances he thus concludes:

"Nature has imposed these laws and eternal conditions on certain places, ever since the time when first Duncalion threw stones upon the earth, from which men sprang a hardy race, [i. e. ever since the creation.] Come therefore, and early in the first month of the year let the brave

steers invert the rich soil, and let the pulverizing heat by mature suns bake the upturned soil sod: but if the land be not rich, it will suffice to turn it with a light furrow even as late as the rising of Arcturus [in the fall]; in the former case, [i. e. in rich land, plow early and deep,] in order that the weeds may not oppose the joyous crop; in the latter case, [in poor land, plow late and shallow,] lest the scanty moisture desert the sandy, sterile soil. Moreover, you should permit the newly sown lands to rest alternate years, and the idle plain to harden with sward, ere the year being changed sow yellow wheat on the land off of which you have gathered the joyous pulse with waiting pod or the tender offspring of vetch and fragile stalks of the bitter lupine and sounding grove; for a crop of flax and oats will burn the land, and also poppies diffused with oblivious sleep, yet the cultivation of these will be easy every other year. It must not shame thee to saturate dry soils with rich compost, nor to strew mellow ashes over the worn out fields. Thus your land rests by the crops being changed; nor in the mean time is it ungrateful for the soil, if untilled, (if fallowed.) Often it has proved of advantage to burn off sterile lands and to consume the light stubble with crackling flames; by this they either draw out the latent powers and rich food of the land (if it be poor,) or every bad quality is destroyed by the heat and the useless moisture is dried up, (if the land be wet). Or again, the colic opens more pores and the close passages relax, through which the sap may reach the young plants, (as in close, stiff land). Or lastly, the heat hardens the ground and closes the gaping veins; so that neither the fine rains nor the more efficacious power of the glowing sun, nor the penetrating cold of Boreas, can prove injurious. He will benefit his land who breaks the inert clods with harrow, or draws over it the Osier drags. Ceres, the goddess of the golden harvest beholds him not in vain from lofty Olympus. He too, does well, who cleaves the ridges that rise in the field once broken, by plowing it again in an



opposite direction: also he who gently exercises and governs his field. Let farmers pray for wet summers and dry winters. Sown grain is most fruitful, and the field by hibernian dust. Mysia exults more in no culture this kind of seasons, and Gargarus of Mt. Ida admires his own harvest. What shall I say of him who follows his fields after the seed is sown and breaks down the clods and ridges of his barren land, and who moreover, conducts the flowing stream and enough of water into the same? Also, when the field is scorched and the herbs are dying, behold! he leads the stream from the brow of the craggy steep, which falling down smooth rocks awakes the hoarse murmur and tempers the thirsty soil with its streams! What of him who, lest the stalks bend with heavy ears, feeds the corn luxuriant in tender herbs, when first the blades equal the furrows, and who draws from the soaking sand the collected water of the marsh, especially in the variable months when the abounding stream overflows and covers all things far and wide with slimy mud from which the hollow dykes drain the water? Nevertheless, [after the exertions of men and oxen have been tried in cultivation], still the wicked goose, Stramonian cranes and succory with bitter roots may injure, or the shade may destroy. Father Jove himself wished the way of cultivation not to be easy, and mortal minds with cares, first preferred the fields to be cultivated through art, not suffering his own kingdoms by heavy sloth to grow torpid."

The author here continues with the deeds of Jupiter, which are foreign to our end, and the rise and progress of civilization—saying that, "incessant labor and want, urgent in adversity conquered all things." But unless you tear the earth to pieces with assiduous harrows and frighten the birds with noise, restrain the shade with pruning knife and invoke the gentle shower with vows, alas! thou shalt gaze in vain at the ample pile of another, and be compelled to appease thy hunger in the woods under the shaken oak." He then mentions the attention necessary for farmers, "All of which

provided long before, he should be mindful to store away, if a reward of the divine country, worthy of thee, remains for the industrious." He then proceeds to give many ancient customs—times for planting—signs for different kinds of weather, some notions curious enough, and mythological episodes not necessary to give.

Respectfully,  
G. W. FARRELL  
For the Valley Farmer.

**WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.**  
Mr. Abbott.—I am requested by one of your subscribers to suggest the propriety of publishing in the Valley Farmer, a schedule of the weights per bushel of all the grains, seeds, fruits and vegetables, which have standard weight established either by law or custom, within this State.

Respectfully,  
J. C. HEBERLING.  
We published last month the rates established by law in Illinois. The following table gives the weights per bushel as established by ordinance of the city of St. Louis, and consequently the rates in use by the weighers in this market.

Of Wheat, sixty pounds.  
Of Corn, fifty-six pounds.  
Of Corn in ear, seventy pounds.  
Of Rye, fifty-nine pounds.  
Of Oats, thirty-five pounds.  
Of Barley, forty-eight pounds.  
Of Malt Barley, forty pounds.  
Of Potatoes, sixty pounds.  
Of Sweet Potatoes, fifty pounds.  
Of Beans, sixty pounds.  
Of Bran, twenty pounds.  
Of Clover seed, sixty pounds.  
Of Timothy, forty-five pounds.  
Of Flax seed, fifty-six pounds.  
Of Hemp seed, forty-four pounds.  
Of Buckwheat, fifty-two pounds.  
Of Castor Beans, forty-six pounds.  
Of Blue Grass seed, ten pounds.  
Of Dried Peaches, thirty-three pounds.  
Of Dried Apples, twenty-four pounds.  
Of Onions, fifty-seven pounds.  
Of Salt, fifty pounds.  
Of Coal, eighty pounds.  
Of Corn Meal, fifty pounds.  
Of Turnips, fifty pounds.  
Of Orange Orange seed, thirty-three

\*Not established by ordinance, but by custom and agreement with the city weighers.

**Bloody Murrain.**

"The disease first shows itself in a cough, then heaving of the flanks, with bloody, black, and foetid evacuations; tender over the loins, and coldness of the horns. Tumors and biles sometimes appear. The animal holds down the head, moans, is restless, and staggers when walking.

**Causes.**—We have lost several animals by this fatal disease, and are not aware of having cured any when severely attacked. In repeated instances, we have seen large flukes taken out of the liver, strongly resembling the common leech, which abounds in many of our swampy lands. It is certain that on new, low swamp and clay lands, cattle are most liable to it; and when they have been subjected to repeated attacks in such localities, clearing and draining have checked it.

You all attribute it to certain kinds of forage, which are peculiar to the above situations. We are rather inclined to ascribe it to exposure, to excessive dampness, and especially to miasma; for although the brute creation are perhaps less sensitive to these influences than man, yet, as they are governed by the same unvarying laws of nature, when subjected to conditions totally unsuited to their economy, they must suffer equally in kind, though not in degree, with the more refined human frame. But it is evident the disease, its causes, and remedies, are as yet imperfectly understood.

**Remedies.**—However intelligent men may differ as to its causes, all agree that the animal should be first bled, and then thoroughly purged. In obstinate cases, this last is a difficult matter. We have given repeated doses of powerful cathartics without producing any effect; and whenever the medicine is operative, death speedily follows.

Large doses of common salt or Epsom salts dissolved in water, are good purgatives, and if the animal neglects drinking after taking them, he should be drenched with copious draughts of water. These should be repeated every few hours, if ineffectual. Injections are sometimes useful when medicine fails to act. These may be made of soap and water; or take two or three pills of oats boiled, 3 drachms saltpetre, 1 lb. 2 oz. linseed oil, mix and use them when warm. The opening of the bowels may be followed with a pint of linseed oil, as an additional and gentle laxative. When the animal begins to recover, gentle astringents and tonics may be given.

**Preventives.**—We have more confidence in preventives than in remedies. Good keep, shelter, dryness, and clean pastures, will generally prevent attack. The cattle should at all times be supplied with two or three troughs under cover, on the sides and bottoms of

which tar should plentifully spread. Let equal portions of salt and slacked lime be in one; salt and wood-ashes in another; and salt and brimstone in a third. Many farmers have entirely avoided this disease while using one or more of these, when they annually lost many by it previously." R. L. ALLEN.

From the Prairie Farmer.

**ROOT GRAFTING.**—Take apple stocks as they run and as taken from the seed-bed, and I care not whether one or two years old—not one in a hundred will afford a good fibrous root for more than one graft. The custom then seems to be any other than a correct one; for, as far as I have been able to ascertain, most tree-growers make their stocks average from two to three thousand grafts per thousand roots. The consequence is, that those varieties which tend to make but littleroot—such as the Swaar, Esopus, Spitzenburg, Newton, Pippin, &c.,—have, when taken from the nursery at three and four years' growth, not half root enough to support the tree after being carefully set out in the orchard; while the Rhode Island Greening, Roxbury Russet, Fall Pippin, &c., have an abundance of roots; and with the same treatment as the others, by using six or eight inches of root from the crown downwards, you may grow Rhode Island Greenings, &c., while the slow growers will grow more rapid, and those inclined to be crooked will become nearly straight.

There are various modes of performing the operation; each operator having a very different mode, and each insisting that his is the best. Having my roots washed clean of all grit and sand, I commenced by cutting and tonguing my scions, and place them on the bench before me, until I got several hundred prepared, (being careful to keep them out of the way of the fire and covered with a damp cloth,) cutting them from three to four inches, and let the slanting cut on both scion roots be at one inch long, cutting the scion convex and the corresponding cut on the root concave. Having a quantity of scions thus prepared, I take a handful of roots and commence by cutting the necessary slope above alluded to as near the crown as possible, trim off all fibres and cut off the tap root, leaving six or eight inches from the crown downwards. If good trees are wanted, the root in no case should be less than six or eight inches, unless they are to be set in wet soil, where a long root may be very injurious.

Care should be had to cutting across the grain of either root or scion, whereby the strength and firmness of the graft is much weakened. Cut the tongue straight down, which, with the oval surface of the scion and the corresponding hollow surface of the root, enables you to make a strong and beautiful joint, not

apt to be misplaced either in winding or setting out. By following this plan several hundred may be grafted before we proceed to wind—being particular to keep them covered with a damp cloth and in a cool place. But the sooner they are wound and placed away in the cellar, well packed in sand or pine saw dust, the better.

In regard to winding material there is a diversity of opinion; some using paper or tow, while others prefer cloth, and I am decidedly of the latter class. I have never seen any important result arising from the use of paper; it involves too much risk of failure; when, on the other hand, there is risk in using cloth, if it is properly prepared. Old cloth is much better than new, as it answers every purpose, and is sooner crowded off by the growing graft. Worn out sheets, &c., are very good; tear them in strips three or four inches wide and roll them tight on a small stick eight or ten inches long—wind the cloth in the middle, so that each end of the same will serve as a handle when we take the cloth out of the kettle of hot wax, letting each end of the stick rest on the edge of the kettle until well drained—(three or four rolls may be put into the kettle at the same time)—when it should be wound off from the roll on to a board two feet long in such a way that the cloth may become cool in passing from one to the other.

Before putting the cloth into the wax, the materials used should be well melted and thoroughly mixed together. I have found this to be the cheapest and most expeditious way of preparing the cloth; and having all things fixed to our liking, I tear off a strip from the board and strip it up in ribbons about one-third or one-fourth of an inch in width, with a piece of tallow to grease our fingers when necessary and to make the cloth pliable, together with an upright knife fixed in hole in the bench in such a way that it can be taken when not in use. Now, having all things to our liking, I might have wound a thousand grafts in fine order while I have been telling you how "an adopted Hoosier does it."

Various modes for making wax are recommended. The following manner is without doubt the cheapest: "Six pounds of rosin, one pound of beeswax, one pint of linseed oil." If used in a cool room or for out of doors grafting, more oil and beeswax may be necessary. This also makes a good wax for top-grafting by mollifying the consistency of the wax to correspond with the weather. It should be well pulled and worked to make a good wax. Wm. H. LOOMIS.

#### OSAGE ORANGE SEED.

We have received, direct from Texas, a small lot of prime fresh Osage Orange seed,

warranted last year's growth. Price, \$20 per bushel, or 75 cents per pound.

#### Boone and Callaway Stock.

**HIGH PRICED CATTLE.**—CALLAWAY AHEAD.—Our enterprising and thrifty farmers, Messrs. Jas. McCamey and Henry Larimore, have recently sold one head each of beef cattle at an extra price. McCamey's steer, five years old, he sold for one hundred dollars; Mr. Larimore's steer, three years old, he sold for one hundred and twenty dollars. Can any county in the State beat this? If so, let us hear from you and we will set Callaway back in her proper place. Heretofore, we have consented that Old Boone was first and Callaway second in the production of fine cattle, but in the last twelve months our farmers have added some extra fine thorough bred cattle to their herds; so we now claim to stand first on the list. If our farmers of Boone should not think so, we would just invite them at their next county fair to set apart a large and valuable premium for foreign or blooded cattle. Say one premium for bulls and one for cows and heifers, and in both cases let all ages compete from calves up, and my word for it the Callaway farmers will carry off your silver.—*Fulton Telegraph*.

The *Fulton Telegraph* boasts loudly about Callaway cattle, and goes out of its way to twit the county of Boone and its stock raisers. Very well. Callaway is a glorious county, both as respects soil and population; and in fine stock is hard to excel. It is nevertheless our firm conviction that Boone is in advance of her in good cattle, but we are not disposed to make loud and incessant boast of the fact. Yet, by way of testing the sincerity of our neighbor, and of bringing her stock raisers to the point of endorsing or refusing to endorse her boastful editors, a citizen of Boone authorizes us to make them the following proposition:

He will exhibit of his own raising in competition with similar lots of Callaway cattle, 1st, six head of yearling steer calves; 2d, six head of yearling heifer calves; 3d, six head of sucking heifer calves; 4th, six head of sucking steer calves; 5th, a three year old bullock; 6th, a four year old bullock; 7th, bulls of all ages; 8th, cows of ditto—the two latter imported stock, making eight lots, against the like number of Callaway stock taken from any one herd, for a premium of a ten dollar silver cup on each lot, four lots to be exhibited next fall at the Callaway and four at the Boone Fair. Proposition to remain open till May 1st.

Now let Callaway face the music (or the bullock just as she pleases), or for ever hold her peace.—*Mo. Statesman*.



**United States Agricultural Society.**

This society held their annual meeting at Washington, D. C., commencing on the 21st ult. Twenty-six States were represented by accredited delegates from State and County societies. The exercises opened with an address from the President of the society, Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, in which he recapitulated the operations of the society during the past year. This address was well received, and has been printed in pamphlet form for distribution.

A variety of resolutions, &c., were discussed, and an address delivered in the evening, by the venerable George Washington Park Custis, after which the officers and committees were entertained at the National Hotel with a sumptuous repast by Col. C. B. Calvert, the proprietor of "Riversdale." On the second day, Mr. King, of New-York, reported from the nominating committee, consisting of one from each State, and the following officers were chosen for 1855:

**PRESIDENT.**

MARSHALL P. WILDER, of Massachusetts.

**VICER-PRESIDENTS.**

John D. Lang, Maine, J. T. Worthington, Ohio, H. F. French, N. H. B. Gratz, Ky, Fred. Holbrook, Vt. M. P. Gentry, Tenn. B. V. French, Mass. Jos. Orr, Ind. Jas. J. Cooke, R. I. J. A. Kennicutt, Ill. John T. Andrew, Conn. Thos. Allen, Mo. Henry Wagner, N. Y. T. B. Flournoy, Ark. Isaac Cornell, N. J. J. C. Holmes, Mich. Isaac Newton, Pa. Jackson Morton, Fla. C. H. Holcomb, Del. T. G. Rusk, Texas. H. G. S. Key, Md. J. W. Grimes, Iowa. G. W. P. Custis, Va. B. C. Eastham, Wis. Henry K. Burgwyn, N. C. J. M. Horner, Cal. James Hopkins, S. C. Jos. H. Bradley, D. C. D. A. Reese, Ga. S. M. Baird, New-Mexico, A. P. Hatch, Ala. H. H. Sibley, Minnesota. A. G. Brown, Miss. Joseph Lane, Oregon. J. D. C. DeBow, La. J. L. Hayes, Utah. Gen. Whitfield, Kansas, Mr. Giddings, Nebraska.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.**

John A. King, N. Y. B. Perley Poor, Mass. C. B. Calvert, Md. A. Watts, Ohio. A. L. Elwyn, Penn. John Jones, Del. J. Wentworth, Illinois.

**SECRETARY.**

WM. S. KING, Boston, Mass.

**TREASURER.**

B. B. French, Washington, D. C.

On a report of the executive committee, Dr. Elwyn, of Penn., Henry Wagner, of New-York, Dr. W. T. G. Morton of Mass., Col. Anthony Kimmel, of Md., and Chas. L. Flint, of Mass., were appointed delegates to attend the coming Industrial Exhibition at Paris.

A great variety of reports were read, which will be embodied in the forthcoming volume of the proceedings of the society. This will be furnished to the members, and will of itself amply repay the expense of membership. We defer further reference to the doings of the society till the reception of the official record of transactions.—*American Agriculturist.*

**LIABILITIES OF RAILROAD COMPANIES FOR INJURIES TO CATTLE.**—Last week a case of considerable interest was determined in our Circuit Court. One Matthews sued the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad Company for damages in running over and killing his horse. The suit was originally brought before a Justice of the Peace, and taken by appeal to the Circuit Court. The accident happened at Illinois town, where the horse ran upon the track of the road while the engine was moving at a rapid rate. It did not appear that any effort was made to check the progress of the engine, or that any alarm was given by a whistle or bell before the collision.

Judge Underwood instructed the jury, in conformity with two decisions of the Supreme Court, that, in this State, cattle may lawfully run at large. And further, that railroad companies must use ordinary diligence to avoid injuries to horses and stock which may go upon the tracks of their roads; and if, by their gross negligence, an animal is injured, they are liable for the damages thereby occasioned. And that an action on the case is the only remedy for injuries thus caused, of which action a Justice of Peace has no jurisdiction.

Niles and Quick, attorneys for plaintiff, Breese and Koerner for defendant.—*Bellefonte Advocate.*

**SHEEP HUSBANDRY.**—Most of our readers are, no doubt, aware that G. W. Kendall, one of the proprietors of the N. O. Picayune, has established an extensive sheep farm in Texas. A letter to the Galveston News, dated New Braunfels, Feb. 22, says:

"I paid a visit yesterday to the ranch of G. W. Kendall, Esq., of the Picayune, and found him busily engaged making improvements on the beautiful site he has selected for his future home. He has already built a good substantial stone house, commanding a view of the surrounding country, which extends for miles through a romantic region interspersed with wild scenery of the finest character. His chief attention has been directed to the raising of sheep, in which he has succeeded well since his removal to the valley of the Comal. His flock is the finest I have seen in Texas, being composed mostly of pure blooded mer-



now, which produce the finest and most costly wool. They have been entirely free from disease since they were brought here, about two years ago, which proves the adaptation of this country to wool growing; another valuable staple, which, by the introduction of manufactures, might be made a great source of wealth.

### Planning Work for the Coming Season.

In looking forward to the coming spring and summer, there is one kind of work which will, we trust, receive attention from the more enterprising members of the agricultural fraternity. The work to which we refer, is that of contributing to the final settlement of opinions and practices in farming, which are not yet generally received or assented to. Every farmer who takes any interest in the progress of agriculture, might plan and carry out some one experiment, little or large, which would go some way towards settling in his own mind, and in the minds of others, some point upon which he entertains doubts; or is not entirely satisfied. If some one farmer in every school, district, or a dozen farmers in every township, were to undertake the putting of some one doubtful opinion, or practice to the test of experiment, the aggregate would form a contribution of immense value to the interests of those whose pleasures and profits depend greatly on the correctness of the opinions they adopt, and the conformity of their practical operations to the established and unalterable laws of Nature. Who will not plan some little experiment to be made during the coming season, which may form one small item—one mite—towards this great storehouse of well-tested and useful truths?

There are yet many points, both of theory and practice, which need confirmation or refutation. Of the many thousands practicing agriculture, how few could pretend to prove that their mode of procedure was that which both theory and experiment had demonstrated to be the best? While the masses are greatly in the dark in regard to the first principles of their art, even the most advanced are only, to a great extent, learners. For this reason, it is for the interests of agriculturists as a class, that steady, united, intelligent and patient investigation should be kept up by means of well-planned and accurate experiments. Only in this way can facts be ascertained, the traditional separated from the true; and the thoroughly tested opinions and practices so authoritatively made known as to exercise a general influence on the manner in which the practice of agriculture is conducted. One of the fields or departments of knowledge which needs further investigation and experi-

menting, is that of the manurial or fertilizing. Much ignorance, and probably many erroneous opinions, are in existence on this subject. Where opinions have been adopted hastily, that is, without sufficient experimental trial, they are, of course, liable to be erroneous. Some such erroneous opinions, or recommendations founded upon them, have, we doubt not, been set forth with great self-sufficient importance and assurance, on the part of those who have arrogated to themselves the position of teachers and consulting agriculturists. Ill judged recommendations, based on imperfect experiments, and claiming to be founded on science, have done much to create a strong feeling of prejudice against almost everything which bears the name of science. Instead of taking up such prejudices, it would be more the interests of agriculturists, and contribute more to the extension of their professional knowledge, if they would put the assertions or advice of consulting agriculturists and vendors of boasted fertilizers to the proof, on a small scale, before adopting them on a large and expensive one.

There are many other subjects suitable for agricultural experiment. The field is varied and extensive. There are, besides mechanical and chemical means of fertilizing the soil, experiments wanted on the summer and winter food of animals, on the best means of increasing the products of the fields and the domestic animals. We trust that the coming season will be used to put questionable opinions and practices on these, and many other points, to the test of experiment.

Grounds Around Houses.—There is nothing in knowledge of which our countrymen are more deficient, than in laying out and properly planting and cultivating the grounds around their dwellings. Very often they are not laid out or planted at all, but are left in a state of primitive bleakness, or only ornamented by objects of confusion and disorder. Where improvement is actually attempted, the result is not unfrequently a combination of inconvenience and stiffness; and very few neatly, economically and tastefully laid out grounds are to be met with. Why should not this art, which every living man in the country ought to practice, be taught in our higher schools? Latin and Greek are excellent studies for those who have plenty of time and means for these as well as other departments of knowledge; but for such as cannot master all, would not the months consumed on Tacitus and Thucydides, be more profitably spent on those fascinating and eminently useful studies, drawing and perspective, in connexion with landscape gardening? When will the time come that the latter will have only an equal chance

with the former? Time once lost never returns and it is of the highest consequence that those who direct, the mode that young people shall spend it at the most critical of all periods in their lives, should study carefully the best modes for accomplishing so all important an object.—*Country Gentleman.*

**PREPARING LAND FOR CORN.**—As the time for planting this most important crop is rapidly approaching a few hints on the proper preparation of the soil may not be inappropriate. The warfare now raging in Europe, with the excessive droughts we have had in the last few years, the certainty of an increased demand at high figures all combine to draw from every farmer increased attention to this subject. In making preparations for a new crop of corn, we would suggest to our readers that they cannot commence their operations too soon nor push them too fast when they do commence. The first grand requisite necessary is a team and plow, not a mere excuse by which, with hard pushing, the land may possibly be scratched to the depth of three or four inches, but a plow that will not only break your land but break it thoroughly. Land that is only half broken will never more than half produce under the best system of tillage of a seasonable year, while the product of such land, of a dry season, is certainly anything but encouraging. It is to the interest of every planter that his corn land be deep and thoroughly broken. Not a furrow should be run short of a depth of ten inches, while even fourteen inches would not be too much. The advantages of deep plowing are so many and so plain to be seen that we deem it useless to dwell upon them at length. Corn growing upon land broken ten or fourteen inches deep derives a great benefit in any season by being better able to expand its roots to a larger extent of soil and thus gather increased strength and sustenance than it does from land not broken so deep in which the roots are necessarily cramped and are forced to occupy a small space, or force their way through a firm and unbroken soil. But in a dry season the advantages of deep plowing are incalculable. Then it is that the great advantages of this principle are to be seen wherever put in practice. Land deep and thoroughly broke never suffers for the want of rain even in our climate. By breaking our land deep the roots of the corn penetrate to a greater depth than in shallow broke land, and this by means are enabled to draw a sufficient supply of moisture from its increased depth, independent of rain. Nor is this all; for should the season prove wet, the surface moisture sinks down to the bottom of the deeply plowed land, and is there stored away as in a reservoir, upon which the roots

can draw for sustenance ad libitum. Manure well, plow deep and plant early! if you desire corn to sell and to keep.—*Country Gentleman.*

**FENN'S FERRY AT TERMINUS OF CENTRAL PLANK ROAD.**—The owner of this Ferry, Wm. P. Fenn, Esq., has, during the past winter, built a fine, large, and substantial Steam Ferry Boat, to be placed at the ferry formerly known as Howell's Ferry. By reference to Mr. Fenn's advertisement in to-day's paper, it will be seen that he intends to start the boat to running on the 15th inst. This will be a great accommodation to people traveling from or through St. Louis to the upper counties north of Missouri river. By this route they save about ten miles travel, and have a first-rate road.—*Intelligencer.*

### Scarcity of Feed.

We hear complaints from every quarter of a scarcity of feed for all kinds of stock this season—a greater scarcity probably than has been known in this country for a great many years; a scarcity that we do not wish to see again in the next quarter of a century. We do not pity the men so much as we do the innocent brutes, who are always ready to do their part in providing food for the coming winter, if a man will assist them. We hope that this season will wake up our farmers to a better system of cultivation and cropping, thereby avoiding such scenes of starvation of stock as are to be witnessed all through the country.—*Cairo City Times.*

**JENKINS'S PROCESS FOR IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF FLAX FIBER.**—The process is very simple, and consists in throwing down upon the flax a small quantity of oil, say about half an ounce to a pound of flax; this is done by boiling the flax in an alkaline soap ley, washing with water, and then boiling it in water slightly acidulated with some acid, for which purpose acetic acid is, perhaps, the most suitable, from its exerting no injurious action upon vegetable fiber. The acid decomposes the soap, the fatty constituent of which is left in the fiber, or, perhaps, a mixture of an acid soap and a small portion of free oil. These enter into and through every part of the fiber. After this treatment it is washed, and is then found to be soft and silky, its spinning quality being thereby much improved, and its value being very considerably increased; and, while the fibre is not weakened, this process gives to it what is known in the trade as "nature." The improvement in quality may be estimated at from £8 to £10 per ton, and is capable of being made, with ease, probably double.—*Dublin Journal of Industrial Progress.*

### How we Keep our Hens.

Hen-house, in the appropriate sense of that word, we have none. We have no doubt of the utility of these structures, and that something very much better than our contrivances could be got up with a little leisure to plan it, and money to build with. But we have had eggs and chickens enough, for the last five years; to satisfy our editorial ambition, without the trouble of putting up a hen-house. Our barn stands on the south side of a hill, and under a part of it we have a cellar-excavated, stoned and pointed with mortar. It makes a snug, warm room, about 20 feet by 10, opening to the south. A large ventilator communicates with the barn above, and the door is kept open at all times, except in snow storms and the coldest nights when the thermometer is in the neighborhood of zero. On such occasions when Jack Frost is out in state, we close the door. On either side of the cellar there are large, long poles put up for roosts, three on a side, and at such heights from the ground that they are easily reached by the fowls, and that the droppings from the upper row of fowls fall clear of their neighbors below them. Underneath the roosts we have a good supply of charcoal dust or muck, and in addition to this we make a constant use of plaster. As often as every morning, in dry weather, and every other morning in cold, we sprinkle a large shovelful over the droppings. This keeps the air perfectly sweet and absorbs the most of the ammonia. The olfactories are a very good meter for the necessary quantity of plaster, and the rule is to sprinkle as much and as often as you can detect any unpleasant odor. This is essential to the health of the fowls, and we have no doubt that more fowls die of bad air from lack of attention, than from all other causes united. The manure made in this way is very powerful; not equal in value to guano, pound for pound, but much cheaper than guano at the cost of its manufacture. It forms a very handsome item in the annual profit of keeping fowls.

In the yard upon which the cellar opens, we have a large pile of refuse

cabbages, not quite good enough for market, and a little too good for the compost heap. These are gathered late in the fall, when frozen, and covered with salt-hay or other refuse matter. They keep in a frozen state nearly all winter. The hens have constant access to them, and get all the green food they want. This, with the other attentions, keep them in fine health. They have pounded oyster shells both in the cellar and in the yard, and fresh water every day. The staple feed is Indian corn, soaked, and in meal scalded. This is varied with oats, and the sweepings of grain stores and screenings from the city.

We should probably get some eggs without further effort, but to make success certain we give fish, two or three times a week. A small fish, caught in all our salt-water creeks and ditches, called the mummychang, makes excellent feed for fowls. Fish offal from the market, or butcher's offal, would probably answer as well. Beginning the fowl season November 1st, with a flock of pullets hatched the preceding April, we have eggs, constantly and in abundance, through the coldest weather. The quantity increased after February, and in the three following months it rains eggs on our hill, and the thunder of Shanghai eloquence wakes the echoes of every morning hour.

We keep, in their purity, White Dorkings, Buff Shanghais and Chattagongs. The Asiatic fowls are the only reliable winter layers, and make early chickens for broiling, better than any variety we have ever tried. The cross of the Dorking with the Shanghai makes a very plump, fine fleshed fowl for the table; and they are not bad layers. The Buff Dorking, made by this cross, is a very handsome, sprightly bird. With a stock of forty or fifty fowls we raise all the eggs and chickens used in a large family, and from a debit and credit kept for several years, it appears that each fowl pays about a dollar clear profit. No other investment on the premises pays so well.—*Am. Ag.*

Talent and art must go hand in hand. Birds rise not by means of their feathers only, but by those which guide their flight.



**RED CLOVER.**—It appears to be generally admitted that clover does best sown early in the spring on the young wheat. Every farmer ought to grow his own clover seed, and sow it with an unsparing hand. At least one-fourth of the arable land on a wheat farm should be annually seeded down with clover. It does well, if the land is clean, sown with barley. We know intelligent practical farmers, in Western New-York, who sow clover with barley, even when they intend to sow wheat after it the same year. The barley straw, having a little clover mixed with it, is eaten more readily by cattle; while the clover roots, and little herbage is turned under, furnished ammonia for the wheat crop. We will not say that this course will pay in all cases, but we will say that the average yield of wheat, other things equal, will generally be in proportion to the amount of clover grown and plowed under or consumed on the farm. Red clover is well adapted to our climate. When properly cured, it makes a valuable hay for horses; and like peas and beans, though it impoverishes the soil but little, it furnishes manure rich in ammonia. We consider twelve pounds to the acre none too much seed. Be careful not to cover the seed too deeply. As a general thing, we bury all small seeds too deep. The shallower the better, so that light is excluded, and sufficient moisture is obtained. One to two bushels of plaster per acre sown with the clover, will prove of much benefit to it; and the notion that it makes the straw of the wheat too rank; or delays its ripening is, we believe, without much foundation in fact. Certain it is, that some of the best wheat farmers in the country are in the habit of sowing plaster on their wheat fields for the benefit of the clover. It has no effect on the wheat, but proves of great value to the young clover. There are two kinds of red clover, the small and large, or, more properly, the early and late kinds. The late kind grows large and coarse, and is well adapted for manuring purposes, and, as it ripens at the same time as timothy, it is considered preferable to the small kind for mixed hay. The small or early kind, however, is doubtless the most nutritious, and is the most popular.

#### Country Gentleman.

**CURE FOR RHEUMS.**—Boil up in any iron vessel of sufficiently capacity (say four or six quarts,) enough yellow dock root to make a strong liquor, when sufficiently boiled; and while the liquor is as hot as can be borne by the hand, cover the kettle with a flannel cloth to keep in the heat and steam, and hold the hand or finger affected under the cloth and in the steam, and in five minutes the pain will cease. If it should return after a time, heat

up the same liquor and do as before. In a cure performed in this way, the joints of the fingers will always be preserved.

#### Cultivation of the Sunflower.

**MESSES EDITORS:**—I wish that you or some of your readers, would give me some information relative to the culture of the Sunflower, and the manufacture of the seed into oil. Last spring I planted a variety of the seed called the Ohio mammoth, in the hills where the grubs had eaten up the corn. I planted the seed during the first hoing of the corn. It was quite late. However the seed all came to maturity before the frosts.

I could not judge of the quantity of the seed to the acre, as it was scattered over the whole piece. I gathered nine bushels of seed, however, from the whole, (24 acres.) I took 1-2 bushels to a linseed oil mill, to see what could be done. The man who worked the mill told me he had never worked any of the seed, but thought it ought to be dried first. When he made it up, it had shrunk four quarts on the whole, leaving 1-8 bushels. It made about five quarts of oil. Subsequently he made all the seed into oil. The seed had got very dry and had shrunk nearly a bushel on the whole lot. I did not get as much oil from a bushel as at first. I think it must have been too dry. The meat of the seed is very oily. But it is enclosed by a dry, thick husk, which takes a great deal of the oil in pressing. I think there is six quarts of oil in a bushel, if it could be got out. The dry seed weighs about as heavy as oats. The oil burns with a beautiful clear white light; and if it could be got out of the seed, would be quite an item of saving to the farmer.

The heads of that which I raised, were well filled, and quite large, some of them being even twelve inches across. The corn did not seem to be injured at all by standing under them, but on the contrary was better if anything. I would like to know if they would grow as well planted alone, and how thick they could be planted? And whether it would not be better to break off the suckers as fast as they appear, and let only the top head grow? Whether best planted early or late. And finally, should the seed be dry or not, to manufacture into oil? And also be so kind as to give me the process of making it into oil. For it evidently requires a different treatment from flax seed. If you will take the pains to answer all these questions satisfactorily, you will oblige others as well as your humble subscriber.—*Country Gent.*

Those who delight to insult the timorous and mean, do but swell themselves up into a more extravagant and remorseless barbarity.



For the Valley Farmer.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 16, 1855.

MR. EDITOR.—*Dear Sir:*—Your number for February contained an article on "Agricultural Schools," which I read with infinite pleasure. The subject is one that has somewhat attracted my attention, and I would therefore offer some suggestions in relation to a general agricultural education and its advantages, which may not have occurred to many of your readers.

We all know that the wealth and prosperity of a nation have their source in the fertility of the soil and in the amount of knowledge a people possess in the management of it. We have all observed how towns and cities have a tendency not merely to consume agricultural produce, but to waste and squander and *misapply* the accumulated wealth which is the result of the landed industry. And hence we are led to conclude, and upon very strong grounds, that the decline of nations arises from the injurious distribution of populations in towns and cities, as much, or more perhaps, than from any other cause. We shall have to consider then what is the remedy.

The cultivation of the soil is not the only occupation for man; but it is one that always pays abundantly the labor bestowed upon it. It is the most natural occupation of man, the one which blesses him more largely, morally and materially, than any other, and for the reason that it is less selfish than any one, and more generally and universally remunerative. The land can hardly have too many laborers upon it; and the more intelligent they are the more it will support.

But the occupations and professions of city life are more uncertain, changeable, accidental, and *unfair* in remuneration. Cunning, and not talent or honesty; chance, and not skill or capacity, in the lottery life of the city, get most of the advantages. We hear therefore everywhere that trades and professions are overstocked; and in our carelessness of observation of consequences, which we will not calculate, little dream of the millions of victims of the lottery of

city life, who perish over the earth, by the slow poison of anxiety, distress, bad and insufficient food, raiment and shelter, and the vices and crimes which follow. And what is worse—for the truth ought to be told—the victims of the system are more often the honest (for honesty in such a struggle is weakness) the innocent and the young; *particularly females*.

Now, to keep up a healthy balance in a country, the first essential point is to remove the ignorance of agricultural pursuits, which characterizes, I am ashamed to say, even the country people themselves. The ridiculous, unhealthy system of mere book learning, which breaks down and demoralizes so many young minds, should be changed, and education be made more practical. Let therefore a portion of the now misspent hours be devoted to the practice of gardening and agriculture, to the study of botany, manures, &c., so that every man, at least, whatever his future profession, may, when the pressure of the lottery of life compels him, find a sure retreat in the knowledge of the cultivation of the soil. Then will the current to the cities be changed to a current from the cities, and a more healthy and prosperous state of things act upon both town and country. Your friend, A. J. A.

For the Valley Farmer.

#### Orchard Grass.

MR. ABBOTT.—*Dear Sir:*—One of your correspondents in the February No. thinks it would be well to republish some former articles. And in answer to J. S. T. you could not do better than to republish an extract from the Louisville Democrat, written by Col. Sanders, of Kentucky, and published in the May No. of the Valley Farmer for 1853. In my early days I was acquainted with Orchard Grass, and after reading the article alluded to I thought it would do well in this climate. Accordingly in the spring of 1854 I sent to St. Louis for some seed and sowed it rather too late in the spring, on ground too much worn. Notwithstanding these two difficulties and

the unparalleled drouth it had to contend with, it grew well and looked green in the fall when every vestige of blue grass was scorched and dried up. It now looks strong and vigorous. I also sowed it by itself and it had no protection from the scorching sun, while timothy and clover which I sowed under more favorable circumstances were quite a failure.

From my little experience with this grass, I believe it one of the best grasses we have. It is particularly suited for woodland pasture, growing better in the shade than any other grass. I fully endorse the opinion of G. M. C. that we should have more winter pasture. It is altogether cheaper than any other food, besides a vast saving in time and feeding. Let us hear from others.

H. L. B.

Howard Co., March 10, 1855.

#### For the Valley Farmer. Deep Plowing.

MR. EDITOR,—Dear Sir:—In view of the protracted drouth last Summer I will give my experience in the advantages of deep plowing which you can dispose of as you think proper. The piece was upland raw prairie. The sod was turned over about five inches; my horse team followed with a good two horse plow (one that throwed the dirt well) and threw out dirt 4 1-2 inches, making 9 1-2 inches in all. Every third round corn was dropt on the sod and covered by the horse plow as it followed after—the same hand doing the dropping, as the horses easily overtook the oxen in time to take their furrow, so there was no hindering—the rows were 80 rods long. After planting and before the corn was up I took a heavy harrow and put on four horses (oxen would do us well) and harrowed lengthwise with the sod, making it fine and smooth without interrupting the sod. The corn came up nice and grew off rapidly and the birds could not take it up. There was about sixteen acres in the field, about ten acres of it was served in this way, some on the east side, a like quantity on the west, and a strip in the middle. The remainder was put in with the axe,

and was up a couple of weeks, looking fine and flourishing, before we commenced planting the other, which was not till the first of June and finished on the 8th, except the harrowing. This last stood the drouth admirably, did not curl and wither up, and made a bushel of good corn to the shock—corn standing rather thin which was an advantage to it. The other or first piece hardly made any nubbins on the whole piece, a great part of it died or was killed by the chintz bug, which were numerous in the neighborhood, and it was so stunted that by the 1st of Sept. it was not worth cutting for fodder. This stood from 3 to 5 stalks in a hill averaging 4 feet asunder. It was supposed by those who saw it on the 20th of June that it would make by far the most corn. E. D.

From the American Phrenological Journal.

#### A New, Very Cheap, and Durable mode of Building.

Nature makes ample provision for supplying every want of her creatures. The demand for a home is a primary, and one of the paramount requisitions of every living thing; and the higher the creature the more imperious this demand. Of course mother nature, in her ample supply of all the necessities of her children, has by no means omitted to supply ALL MANKIND amply with the materials for constructing themselves good houses; while Phrenology points out, in its discovery of the constructive instinct, an ample provision for manufacturing these materials into comfortable dwellings. To what, then, does nature point as her leading material for the structure of buildings, both for household and other purposes?

Not to Wood: because her economy is to crowd upon the earth's surface just so many human beings as she can possibly feed, whereas, to appropriate so much land to the growth of timber, as will, in all coming time, be requisite for building purposes, would curtail the number of human beings, for the more land there is appropriated to timber, the less food can be raised.

Besides, timber is perishable, so that it will take a great amount of land merely to repair and rebuild dilapidated structures, to say nothing of creating new ones.

If it is objected that our timber grows on wild land, not needed for agricultural purposes, I reply this is true now, but will not be a hundred, or certainly a thousand years hence:

for by that time existing woodlands will all be cut off, and also wanted for agricultural purposes, for whatever land will grow building timber will raise edibles.

Nor is it the order of nature that a house should be every day rolling down over our heads, nor need repairing every few years. Nature has, undoubtedly, in providing for this home instinct, created some imperishable building material, and indestructible by fire. Wood cannot, therefore, be her primary provision.

Brick is better, yet is liable to many objections. It is too dear. Poor people cannot afford to build with it. Besides, it takes a regular mason to lay them, whereas nature has obviously provided for every man to build his own house, just as much as to rear his own fruit, food, etc., eat, breathe, exercise, etc., for himself, and after his own fashion.

Clay, sun-dried, in large square blocks, is doubtless one of nature's building materials, but of this it is not our present purpose to speak.

Lime is obviously one of nature's first provisions for building. Cheap, abounding almost everywhere, various in quality, such as water lime of various kinds, etc., indistructible by fire, water, or frost, growing harder with age, and possessing extraordinary cohesive power, together with many other valuable properties, who can doubt that it should enter largely into building materials? And so it does. Yet I opine far less than nature designs it should. Mixed with sand it makes mortar which becomes nearly as hard as brick, or even stone, and the older the harder, and the coarser the sand used, the stronger the mortar. Yet it is used mainly to put together brick, stone, etc. But why not use mortar alone, and run it into such shapes as suits our liking? Why not use coarse gravel, and even pebble stones, just as we now use sand, mix them with lime, and put this gravel mortar into our walls, and even compose our walls, outside and in, of this material? It is solid, indestructible by fire, frost and water, lasts for ages, is "cheap," easily made, can be put up by any one, and be run into whatever shape we like. Can there, then, be a reasonable doubt that this is, after all, nature's great building material? Every thing about it says, "This is just the thing."

And recent experience confirms this verdict. J. Goodrich, of Milton, Wisconsin, formerly of Alleghany county, N. Y., living on a prairie, and thinking that nature had provided other building material where timber is thus scarce, knowing that under the prairie soil and subsoil, which is about three feet deep, there was coarse, clean gravel, and often gravel banks, and also, that lime abounded

throughout the West, reasoned with himself thus, "Why will not this coarse gravel and lime make good walls?" and reduced the reasoning to a practical trial. I have seen him and examined this mode of structure thoroughly, and pronounce it, in my judgment, every way better than either brick or wood, and yet not one-fourth as expensive. The principal expense consists in drawing the materials and lifting the mortar into the walls. Sand abounds almost everywhere, and can be got—especially coarse gravel—for nothing; and lime is cheap, say twelve to fifteen cents per bushel, unslacked. In this way, one bushel of lime serves for twenty bushels of gravel, so that 100 bushels of lime will put up 2,100 bushels of mortar, or some 2,500 cubic feet of wall, which, supposing your wall is one foot thick—enough doubtless for all practical purposes—would build the outside wall of a house thirty feet square and twenty feet high; and if the inside walls were eight inches thick, and run through the house each way, one to form the entry and the other to divide the house into front and back rooms, it would take only about thirty bushels more, or 130 bushels in all, at a cost of less than twenty dollars! And how many days' work is it likely to require to slack this lime and shovel the gravel into it, and stir up the two together—for no working is needed, only mixing—and carry it up into the walls? There are about 3,300 cubic feet of mortar. Cannot a man mix and carry up, on an average, one hundred cubic feet per day? I should think he could double this, yet at this rate the naked walls would cost thirty-three dollars for labor—and the commonest laborer can do it—supposing labor to be one dollar per day; and say, perhaps seventeen dollars for lime, are only fifty dollars. The chimneys can be carried up in the wall, as is now done in brick walls, and with trifling additional labor, and with no additional cost of brick and mortar. The walls of a good sized dwelling-house were put up in Elgin, Ill., last year, for about forty dollars, as I was informed by Mr. Quigley, who was then building a church in that place.

"But will it stand?" ask many, half convinced that there may be something in this mode. Milton Academy, the first building put up in this way, has now stood, without anything on the outside of it, some six years; and not only without the least sign of decay, but becomes harder and stronger every year, which is known to be true of all good mortar. I examined the second building put up in this way—a blacksmith shop—with the following result: Finding a flint pebble stone—one of the hardest kinds of stone—of the size of a turkey's egg, which came out of the outer



edge of the wall, I took a hammer and flaked off piece after piece, till I had clipped away two-thirds of the stone, meanwhile the balance retained its position unmoved! I then drew my hammer—and it was a heavy one—repeatedly, as hard as I could upon the wall, making scarcely more indentation than upon a stone; so I was compelled to regard the walls as even more solid than brick. Mr. Goodrich said that for six cents per blow he would let a man pound with a sledge upon his parlor walls, and let any one bang away on his blacksmith shop till they were tired, and added that many had done so. Readers will remember that I am stating what I myself saw and know to be true. So certain am I of success, that though my timber was ordered for the house of my life, to be built nearly on the principle mentioned in my "Home for all," yet I consider this so much cheaper and better that I have countermanded the order except for the floor timbers, and by the time this article will be read, shall be putting up my walls of lime, sand, and broken up slate stones, after the plan developed in this article.

In traveling through Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan, I saw probably one hundred houses and some fences—for this is doubtless the best and cheapest mode of fencing prairies—built in this way, and properly put up, they look well enough from the road, without anything put upon the outside, but, finished off with a coat of lime and sand, which can be marbled and colored they look splendidly—far better than either wood or brick. Yet this marbling and coloring can be done after the structure is completed, as well as at first.

Some of the houses I saw were cracked, of course because the foundation was defective, and brick or stone will crack under like circumstances. That these cracks were not necessary to this mode of structure is evident, because only two or three of those I examined were thus affected. One part of the foundation having settled, of course no alternative remained but to crack. Yet such cracks do less damage than in brick houses, and are easily covered up, and can do no real injury to the strength of the edifice. The partition walls, it must be observed, go up at the same time, and tie the whole building together.

By this process no lathing is needed, except overhead, for the plastering is slapped upon the wall inside and out. Yet as these walls are conductors of both heat and cold, as well as moisture, the outside walls should be carried up with an open space within them, for dead air, or else be furrowed, lathed, and plastered inside: yet this is a detail to which the mason can attend as he likes.

Below is an account from Mr. Goodrich himself, its inventor. After I have tried it, I

shall give you the result in a future number of the Journal.

#### GRAVEL OR CEMENT BUILDINGS.

The following statement of the method and cost of constructing buildings of cement, has been kindly furnished us by Mr. J. Goodrich, who has had considerable experience in the business, being the builder and proprietor of the greater portion of the beautiful village of Milton, situated at the head of Prairie du Lac, in Rock county, Wisconsin. The success he has met with is known to many of our readers who have visited that section of the country, as he already has several fine dwellings, a tavern house, a large block of stores, an academy, and various other buildings completed, presenting a very pleasing appearance from their neat exterior, and giving the amplest evidence of the utility of cement in the construction of buildings of all classes:

"My buildings are made of clear, coarse gravel, and common quick-lime. I use twelve parts of the former to one of the latter; but if the former is free from dirt, soil, or clay, and the lime well burned or fresh, you cannot hit amiss, for it will cement in any proportion from one part of lime to one of gravel, to one part of lime to twenty parts of gravel. I prefer laying the foundation with stone laid in mortar, the same as for a brick house. The gravel walls are made of any thickness, according to the size and height of the house to be built. I have made the walls from ten to fifteen inches thick in my buildings. For curbing we use pine plank, straight grained, one and a half inches thick, and twelve inches wide, and have enough to curb all the walls around the building at once. The planks are held up by narrow strips of boards, set up endways and tacked with a nail to the plank at or near each end. The planks are held together by clamps made of pieces of scantling some two feet long, with strong pins put in far enough apart to include the thickness of the wall, and also the two curbing planks. These clamps are hung over the top edges of the planks, and said pins hang down on each side to hold them together, while a small stick, as long as the wall is thick, is placed between the planks and immediately under the clamps, to hold the upper part of the planks apart. As the wall rises the lower edge of the planks lap on the former layers, so as to keep the bottom tight. We use a plumb which is indispensably necessary, to carry up the wall true. The window frames and door frames ought to be as wide as the wall is thick, and about three inches thick, framed together, grooved and planed on the face side to let in the stoppers to hold the sash and tabbeted. For the doors to shut in they need no casing, which lessens the cost



of finish very much. The joists are put into the wall the same as brick walls, hence you need no post sills or beams. I make flat roofs, so as to not need any plates or rafters, barely letting the joists give a pitch of half inch to the foot, which is sufficient to cause the water to run off. I nail on to these joists straight-edged pine boards, and plaster on two inches thick of gravel mortar, so as to make it fire proof. Then on the top of this, as soon as it becomes dry a coat of tar; then sift on sand, which makes it hard as it settles into the tar; then another coat likewise, and if it leaks, several coats of tar and sand until it is water tight. This soon becomes very hard and solid, and it is cheaper than any covering I have yet found, and apparently durable. I carry up the wall still higher than the roof, so as to carry a balustrade in any shape that taste may dictate. These walls are rough and uninviting to the eye, but can easily be made smooth and level by plastering on a coat of coarse sand and lime, say one of the latter to eight of the former and floated on to level up. Then a fine coat, say half lime and half sand, put on with the trowel and brush, which makes a hard finish for both outside and in. Then whitewash two or three coats, with fresh lime and you have a beautiful white finish which is both imposing and inviting to the eye.

"The cost of these walls will be about one-third of the cost of brick; say from five to six cents per cubic foot, before they are plastered, including labor and material, board, etc., and they may be put up by any common laborer, if he can make the wall straight and plumb. If they are built in the early part of the season, and of good material, they are sure to stand; but they do not become hard like stone at once. This hardening process is slow but sure. The carbonic acid which is first driven off from the lime, by the burning in the kiln, returns through the atmosphere in the same quantity, and re-unites with the lime in the wall, and this converts the lime into stone again; and as the gravel is stone, it of course all becomes stone or rock and will be as durable as time. In fact, you can break the pebbles of gravel with a hammer before it will loosen them from the walls."—*Freeport Journal*.

#### THE GRAVEL WALL MODE OF BUILDING.

As our article on this mode of building, in a former number, awakened considerable interest, and as we have made some personal experiments touching it, it is due to the readers of this volume to give them a few of the results of our own experience in this matter. And first, as to the solidity of the structure. We find it altogether stronger and more ap-

plicable to building than brick walls. Having occasion to tear down a portion of one of our walls which had been up some six weeks, we found it far more difficult to do so than to tear down a brick wall which had been built nearly a year, although the mortar had hardly begun to attain its ultimate adhesiveness and solidity. The wall in question was also only eight inches thick, which is of course the thinnest wall that can be made of brick; and in general we would pronounce eight inches abundantly thick for an inside wall of any house unless its size was truly enormous, designed for domestic purposes, and deem one foot abundantly sufficient for the outside walls.

Secondly, as to the materials. Our own house was built upon a knoll or eminence formed of slate rock, some portions of which had to be dug away to the depth of from one to six feet. Of course a large amount of this slate rubbish was thrown up, and different from the method laid down in the former article, we employed this slate rubbish in place of sand, and out of this formed a great part of our walls. Our mode of procedure was this: first taking three barrels of unslacked lime and wetting and slacking it and by water reducing it to a thin and cream-like consistency, we added fifteen barrels of sand, though these barrels were hardly as large as those of the lime, and added sufficient water to allow the whole to mix or temper easily. After such tempering, beginning at one side of the bed, we would throw on a barrel of this slate rubbish, then a shovel or two of this lime and sand, then another barrel of rubbish, and another two or three shovels of this mortar, until we had put on thirty-five or forty barrels of the rubbish; then beginning at the end of the mortar-bed where we left off, one man would wet and shovel over these materials until they were well intermixed, and throw them into a wheelbarrow, from whence they were wheeled to the walls and, if not too high, thrown directly into the boxes; and, if too high for that, would be shoveled into a small mortar-bed, say four by eight feet, on legs, thus raising it from six to eight feet, and from this shoveled into the boxes, constituting a layer on the walls. Of course every time it was shoveled only still further tempered or mixed these materials and made them the better, and while the bed was being thrown into the boxes, from twenty to thirty barrels of large stones were thrown in along with it, thus making some eighty or ninety barrels of stones, rubbish and sand for three barrels of lime, or about thirty to one, and this my own experience regards as abundantly sufficient; at all events I am willing to put my walls, for solidity, in

contrast with any I have ever seen constructed of wood, stone or brick. It is really surprising to see how tightly those slate stones are bound, even where only a small portion of them is attached to the wall. Of course the whole strength of the wall depends on the lime. At first I employed a greater quantity of lime, relatively, than mentioned above, but I made up my beds in the proportion above stated and deem the lime abundantly sufficient; at the same that I acted partially upon the advice of many of my friends, I erred on the side of too much lime rather than too little. I should add, that as this slate rubbish was shoveled up on the floor preparatory to be thrown into the beds, one man stood upon the pile with a light sledge hammer pounding it in order to save sand. What is required is that there be a regular gradation from finer particles to coarse ones, and as up to stones as large as can well be inclosed in the boxes. It is obvious that the amount of sand and also of lime should be made in proportion to the fineness or coarseness of the materials employed, or thus, suppose a quart of fine sand is to be fitted for a wall, all the particles of this sand must be coated with lime in order to give that adhesive power, but suppose a stone the same bulk is to be fitted for a wall, it has only to be coated, so that it requires the merest particle of lime, compared with the same bulk of sand, therefore in as much as our materials were so largely composed of slate stones, less lime was requisite. In frequent instances, these flat slate stones, wide but thin, as they were thrown promiscuously into the boxes would form vacuums, but instead of injuring the wall, I considered this beneficial, because it furnishes a place for the plastering to fasten on, or even, if there should be occasional holes in the walls, what harm can result therefrom. We omitted to mention in the proper place a few facts touching the strength of our walls. On an eight inch wall before it had been finished two weeks, we placed a mortar-bed into which were put one hundred and fifty barrels, each barrel containing nearly a bushel of this mortar and slate, together with several barrels of water, without any props underneath. Here then were several tons placed upon some ten feet of an eight inch green wall, a greater weight by many fold than would be placed upon it in the ordinary use of a house.

Upon a foot wall, we placed within three days after its completion, and it was completed in three days from being started, it being nine feet high, several tons of the slate rubbish, say from ten to fifteen, and before this wall had been completed a week, it was loaded so heavily that at least a dozen of the floor

timbers broke off with the pressure and yet the wall remains perfectly solid. No wall of course needs stronger trial than this, for if so green a wall will bear so much, what will the same wall bear when fully consolidated, for it becomes harder and still harder for eighteen and even twenty years.

Thirdly, as to the expense of these walls, I cannot give those details on which my judgment is based, but that judgment is that they can be built five times as cheap as wood and eight times as cheap as brick or stone. Almost the entire cost is labor, and after one has acquired sufficient experience to know how to work the mortar in those beds economically, it is perfectly surprising how much a given amount of labor will accomplish. This can be seen at once from the fact that it consists mainly in shoveling the coarsest materials, for it is shoveled into the mortar-beds, worked mainly by the shovel, and shoveled into the boxes, instead of being carried there in hods. A man will shovel to a given height a far greater amount of matter than he can carry on his back; or thus, suppose a given amount of mortar is to be shoveled twenty-one feet—a man can easily shovel seven feet—let him then shovel from the ground into a box, from that into another and from that into a third, or let three men, one in each of these boxes, shovel this mortar twenty-one feet high, and see how much more easily they would accomplish it than to carry it by hods, for in the former case they have only the simple material to lift, and lift it very advantageously, while in the other case they are obliged to carry their bodies in addition every time then they carry say fifty or eighty pounds of this material.

In the article already published it is stated that the main expense of the building was hauling sand; in my own case I have mainly overcome this difficulty by employing the materials dug out of my foundation in place of sand. Some of my neighbors facetiously called these piles of rubbish and slate intermixed with large stone and small, Fowler's brick. "Very well," I replied, "it makes a better wall than any other kind of brick, and at a tenth the cost. It looks rough now, but wait till my walls are finished, and you could not tell the difference between it and the best of brick in looks, and I will guarantee that it will be more solid."

In further aiding the reader to form an estimate of the labor required, I will add that five days' work put up a wall forty feet long, eight inches wide and nine feet high, including the laying out of the wall, and the erection of the guides, and all but one fourth of a day of this work by hands employed at twelve dollars per month; though it should be added

that this was the wall torn down, moved a couple of feet so that the materials were handy, that is, these materials had only to be shoveled into a mortar-bed, some fresh lime added, and then shoveled back into the boxes.

The readers of the next volume of the Journal will expect to know the full amount of this mode of building when my house is completed.

### A Dispute about It.

"Book Farming won't pay." How do you know that? Have you tried it yourself and failed in it, or do you spit out a prejudice for which you have no particular reason? What do you mean by "book farming?" Do you intend to say that because knowledge is put in print, it is no longer good for anything? If you learn a thing from a book, is it therefore of less value than if you received it from your neighbor? If your boys have been at school and have learned anything, it has been from books. If you gave them no books, they gained no knowledge. Men who learn the facts of science, do it from books; those who learn the news, do it from newspapers. What is there about farming that its truths cannot be printed? If one man fats his pig in half the time his neighbor does and gets him twice as fat, cannot that be printed and still be true? and could not a third man who reads it look into the matter and learn how to do it? Is farming perfect? and if not, how is it to be made better?

Book farming will pay. It has paid; it does pay, and it is going on still to pay. It may not pay you. You may be too stupid or too prejudiced, or too contrary to profit by any man's experience. Or you may be a man of good judgment so as to be independent of other men's opinions or practices, and though not learned much from books may learn from observation and reflection. If this is true, you ought to give your experience to others.

Book farming will pay. The Stock men of England have made themselves rich, and their names known all over the world, by book education, put to practice. As much as Agriculture is better and more sound and remunerative, and honored now in this country than it was thirty years ago, it has been made so by books. It will pay the man who will think, and who has sense enough to separate that which is reasonable and applicable to his circumstances from that which is mere theory and "bosh." A man who believes all he hears, is a fool; so is he who trusts implicitly all he reads. Books are not invented to take the place of sense and judgment: they are to aid and instruct them.

My Father and Grandfather farmed

without these new lights." So they did. They rode on horseback and in coaches instead of a rail car. They paid 25 cents a letter for postage; they didn't write by the lightning. They cut wood with shear steel axes; pitched hay with wrought iron forks; cut their rye with sickles; mowed with English scythes; and plowed with a strap iron plow. They fed hogs to 200 pounds, and thought that something to brag about; and crowded lustily over a five hundred pound steer. Father and Grandfather were good men, and knew some things better than their boys do; but their boys know some things which they didn't, and he would be a sap head who should merely act their lives over again. In our day we are expected to act according to our circumstances, and not according to theirs. Had Father and Grandfather known what you do or may know, they would not have acted as you do; for their acts would have befitted their times.

"What do those city fellows know?" Not much, perhaps. They only claim to know what they have learned; and any man has a right to do that. What they have learned has been in the country where you are. They still seek to be instructed by you that they may scatter it abroad for others. Do not disappoint them by withholding your stock of knowledge. — *Prairie Farmer.*

From the Brunswicker.

### Fire Proof Buildings.

During the present year, several millions of property have been burnt up in the United States—a total loss to the country; and bearing so hard on the Insurance Companies that many of them have failed. The nation is this much poorer; and many prosperous people have been ruined. And this state of things will continue while we build such fire traps as are now putting up in Brunswick. Bluff city has been destroyed twice in about twelve months; and all over the country, fires break out in our wooden towns, and run like towns were prairies. Welay the blame to careless persons and wicked incendiaries. But the fault is our own—and the evil will never be remedied by the vigilance of police, nor the punishment of prisons, till we erect buildings that cannot burn. Our business houses ought to be as indestructible as our streets. And nature furnishes us the materials for brick, stone and iron structures everywhere.

Look at the cities of Europe. They never have fires in Liverpool, London and Paris. And there their tenements will last for centuries. Look at the old brick houses in Albany and Schenectady, New York; which are as durable as rock; and look at the old stone houses along



the Hudson river, which have stood since the time of the Revolution. All these show what can be done towards permanency. And it becomes the universal 'Yankee nation' to insure themselves, not in Insurance Companies, but in substantial fire proof buildings, against the growing evils of incendiarism. I am surprised that all the agricultural and utilitarian papers do not teem with articles on the subject. We have no estate in houses, till like lands they are made indestructible. And our dear bought experience in Brunswick, and all over the broad surface of the country should teach us this necessary work—more necessary than commerce—more profitable than railroad or steamboat stock. For without fire proof stores, merchandise had better be in a 'den of thieves,' and the most energetic men are either ground down with insurance taxation, or ruined in an hour by the devouring element.

I am glad to learn that a fire proof row of brick buildings will go up in this town next year. They will be 'real estate,' and cheapest in the long run. They will give character to Brunswick, and those who occupy them will feel a certainty and security in their business arrangements, which will lead to their own prosperity and the prosperity of all connected with them. No more fires!—no more insurance failures!—that will be a proud era. Let it be announced from the stump; and preached from the pulpit, and heralded from the press, till it becomes a 'fixed fact' in the minds of the people, and a 'manifest destiny.' It will be worth more to us than the annexation of Cuba or the possession of the Sandwich Islands.

PANTA.

#### A Suggestion.

The use of gas tar, to preserve plants from insects, appears to be attracting general attention. We have noticed several statements, where, accidentally, the odor of this substance had the effect of keeping plants free from insects. In one instance the plants were watered from casks in which this gas tar had been previously kept; in another, the rafters of a green-house had been painted with the tar to preserve them; and in another, the tar, in a diluted state, was applied with a swab, fastened to a pole, to destroy caterpillars' nests which it did effectually. Why would this gas water not have the effect of preventing the ravages of the curculio, if sprinkled over the trees at the proper season? If it has such an effect in green-houses, it may be supposed that it would be as effectual out of doors. Is it not worth a trial? It should only be tried by the water of the tar, and not the tar itself, which would be apt to kill both tree and insect at the same time.

#### Axioms in Sheep Husbandry.

It is an axiom of good shepherds that sheep should never be permitted to get poor in the fall. Hence, as the feed becomes short and frost bitten, especial care should be given to the flock, and here the farmer often finds himself at a loss. He wishes to spare his store of fodder as long as he can, and, indeed, while the ground is bare, sheep care little for hay, unless shut entirely from grass. Between "hay and grass," sheep often lose an amount of flesh which they are unable to regain through the winter. A good plan now is to give the best food to be had, yard them on cold or stormy nights; feed them a little good hay or sheaf oats in the morning, and let them run during the day if the weather is sufficiently moderate. Remember that they need care and attention, and they should be kept in as good condition as possible, use your own judgment as to the means to be employed.

Another axiom is, never to let sheep grow poor in winter. It is very hard work to recruit and bring up a half-starved sheep, even when not diseased, and often when the warm days of spring come, they fail one by one, and careless farmers' back lots are strewn with scattered crew baits. The best remedy is to keep them from getting poor. If one have a large flock, the sheep should be classed off early in winter, into smaller flocks, according to their age and strength, and then be fed accordingly. If they once get poor, a little grain seems to have no good effect, but a little grain given to sheep in good order, will assist a good deal in keeping them so. It is a pleasant business to feed a fine flock of sheep in steady cold weather, while nothing can be more unpleasant than the care of a poor, half-starved flock, in the trying weather of March and April.

The true way is to never let sheep get poor at any season of the year. This is the axiom in sheep husbandry.—Wool Grower.

It is observed, that the most censorious are generally the least judicious, who having nothing to recommend themselves, will be finding fault with others. No man envies the merit of another who has enough of his own.



## The Garden and Orchard.

### Remarks for the Month.

The gardener should now be very active and prepare his grounds for planting and sowing the more hardy vegetables, early in the month, indeed, in this latitude, much ought already to be done, by way of preparation. In the region, stretching from the 37th to the 41st degrees of latitude, within which most of our readers reside, there may be a difference of two weeks in the season; but by adapting our remarks to a medium line between these two parallels we shall we shall not be far out of the way for any region.

We do not think except where very early vegetables are desired, that much is gained by planting much in the garden, before the coming in of April. A week of May weather will bring things forward more than all the month of March, and seed planted before the ground is well warmed does not come up so evenly nor grow so regularly, as that planted later in the season; even if it comes up at all, which is of course somewhat doubtful. The gardener, whether he makes his garden his sole employment, or has it as an appendage to his farm, should strive rather to have a good garden than an early one. And particularly in heavy land, if the soil is prematurely worked, it is apt to retain traces of it, and remain stubborn throughout the season; it is therefore better to defer labor on such soils until it is sufficiently dry to crumble.

We take it for granted that every man who reads the *Valley Farmer* has determined this year to have a garden—a good garden—a garden totally unlike

"A man of words but not of deeds,"  
of whom it is said he

"is like a garden full of weeds."

And having made these remarks, we will now—as this is one of the most important months of the whole year to the gardener—introduce the following directions from the *American Farmer*:

**Cauliflowers.**—If your cauliflower plants are of sufficient size, you may set them out early this month. In preparing the ground for them, be sure to give the bed you allot for their growth a full dressing of manure, dig it deeply and rake thoroughly every few feet, so as to have the soil in fine till; your ground thus prepared, set out your plants about the same distance as cabbage plants are usually placed.

If you have no plants set out and desire to grow some cauliflowers, select a spot of loamy soil, on a warm border facing the south, manure it with stable dung, say about two or three inches deep, and dig that in at least a spade deep, rake as you go so as to pulverize the soil, then spread thereon about an inch in depth of well rotted manure, rake that in freely, then sow your cauliflower seed, rake them lightly and pat the earth with the back of your spade. Should the weather prove dry, water so as to never let the plants suffer from drought. This attention to watering must be attended to in their after culture, as there are but few vegetables so liable to injure from drought as the cauliflower. Occasional waterings of soap suds improve their growth wonderfully, so will soot-leaf, made in the proportion of one gallon of soot to ten gallons of water.

**Setting out Cabbage Plants.**—If you have been provident enough to provide yourself with cabbage plants, set them out early this month. In the first place select a suitable bed of deep loam, manure it heavily, dig it up nicely to the full depth of the spade, being careful to rake it well as the spring progresses. Then set out your plants about two feet each way, keep them clean and water in dry seasons, and you cannot fail to have an early supply of collards and well headed cabbages.

**Sowing Cabbage Seed.**—If you have no early plants, prepare a bed as we have advised for cauliflowers, and sow two or three kinds of early cabbage seed; water the plants in dry weather and they will be fit to transplant in five or six weeks. The earlier the better you attend to this; if pos-

sible, get your seed sowed the first week in this month.

**Peas.**—Drill in a few rows of peas the first of this month, and continue to do so at intervals of a week throughout the month.

**Brussels Sprouts.**—Prepare a bed of good loamy soil, by manuring heavily, dig in the manure a spade deep, rake well, then broadcast pretty liberally with a compost formed of 7 parts rotten manure and 1 part ashes, rake that in pretty thoroughly; then sow your seeds, rake it lightly, and roll or pat the bed with the back of a shovel or spade, and in two months you will have a plentiful supply of most delicious sprouts or greens, either for table or market.

**Broccoli.**—Prepare a bed as recommended for Cauliflowers and sow Broccoli seed.

**Beans.**—Plant beans, of kinds, during this month. If their planting be timed at intervals of a week, during this and the ensuing month, a continuous supply may be secured throughout the season.

**Radishes.**—Sow Radish seed every few days during the month.

**Lettuce.**—The same advice as given for Radishes will answer for Lettuce.

**Small Salading.**—Sow the seeds of all kinds of small salading early this month, and continue to do so throughout the month at intervals of a few days.

**Spinach.**—No one should consider his garden complete without having a compartment devoted to the culture of this excellent vegetable. Its effects upon the system are cooling, refreshing and gently aperiant, while its flavor and taste is generally approved; and what is still a feather in its cap, if we may express ourselves, is the fact that it may be eaten by persons in sickness, while many other vegetables are prohibited.

The neatest way of growing it, is to cultivate it in drills, about half an inch in depth, nine inches apart. The seed should be sown thin; and when the plants are a few inches high they are to be thinned out so as to stand about six inches asunder. They must be kept clean with the

hoe and hand. Sow early this month, in a bed well manured and well prepared.

**Strawberry Beds.**—If your strawberry beds have not already been attended to, forthwith have them neatly cleaned of weeds and runners; manure between the rows with well rotted manure, which should be raked, and have a covering of long straw placed over it, for the treble purpose of keeping down the growth of weeds, maintaining moisture in the soil, and preserving the fruit from grit. While your vines are in blossom, have a care that they do not suffer from drought. To prevent this, it will be well in dry weather to water them freely about three times a week. If you desire fine large berries, add a gallon of soot to thirty gallons of water, and water them with the decoction, taking care always to hold the nozzle of the watering spout sufficiently low to avoid touching the flowers. To best way to prepare this decoction of soot, is to tie the soot up in a bag. In this way you may fill the barrel containing the soot up a second time.

**Asparagus Beds.**—If you have not done so already, give your asparagus beds a top dressing of manure, which should be forked in, then strew salt all over the bed, so as to whiten the entire surface. Salt is one of those ingredients on which this root delights to feed, and is never applied without resulting benefits.

**Gooseberries—Currants.**—Either the bushes or cuttings of these may now be set out; the sooner the better.

**Egg-plants.**—The seeds of this vegetable for a late crop, should be sown very early this month. Select a spot on a warm border, manure it liberally, dig it deep, rake it fine, and sow the seed thinly, rake them in lightly, and pat the earth with the back of your spade. When the plants come up, should the weather prove dry, water every second or third day. In six or seven weeks the plants will be ready for transplantation.

**Setting out Tomatoes.**—If you have plants set them out the first good season after the weather shall have become settled.

the sooner the better; plant them three feet each way, in ground that has been heavily manured and well worked, both as regards plowing and harrowing. After your plants become well set, dust them freely with ashes and plaster, equal quantity of each. If the weather should prove dry, water the plants every other day; and, in cultivating them be sure to keep down the growth of every thing like weeds and grass, until the vines begin to bloom, when they must be left undisturbed to fruit.

**Sowing Tomato Seed.**—In the first week of this month, select a good piece of loam on a border facing the south, and sow tomato seed for a late crop. Manure and prepare the ground well, and treat the plants as advised for cauliflowers. Should the plant assume a sickly hue, treat them to a decoction made thus: put half a bushel of horse dung into a barrel, fill that up nearly with water, then put a pound of sulphur and a half a gallon of soot into a bag, sink that in the barrel, and after letting it stand a day, water the tomato plants with the liquor; this barrel will bear filling up two or three times.

As you set out your plants, immerse the roots and stems into the consistency of cream, made of two parts soot and one flour of sulphur. This will not only ensure healthful action to the growth of the plants, but secure them against the attacks of the cut and grub worms, which so frequently undo in a night what has been done the previous day.

**Carrots, Parsnips, Beets.**—Drill in some rows of each of these roots at the beginning of this month for early use—your main crop for winter consumption had better be delayed until the beginning of next month.

**Celery.**—Prepare a bed and sow celery seed. Select a good rich loamy spot, manure it liberally and dig and rake it well; then sow the seed, rake them in lightly and pat down the earth with the back of a spade or shovel. Treat the bed to frequent waterings both before and after the plants come up. It is important to the germina-

tion of the seed that the ground be kept moderately mellow.

**Sowing Onions.**—If you did not sow onion seed last month, do so the beginning of this. Select a mellow loamy bed, cover it about two inches deep with well rotted manure, dig it in a spade deep, rake finely as the work progresses. This done, lay off your bed, into beds 4 feet with alleys 1 foot wide between them, make drills 1-2 inch deep, sow your seed and cover with the rake. Should the weather be dry, water the beds to force the germination of the seed, so also in times of drought, water the plants during their growth, and you will not fail to have mild, well sized onions.

**Leeks.**—The seed of this vegetable should be sown early this month.

**Seed Onions** should be set out this month.

**Garlic, Shallots, Chives.**—These should be planted in the beginning of the month, the earlier the better.

**Sage and Thyme** may be planted out or the seed sown in the beginning of this month.

**Early Turnips.**—Prepare a bed by manuring it with well rotted manure, dig it in a spade deep, rake as the work proceeds, that done, top dress with a compost formed of six parts rotten manure and two parts ashes, rake that well in; then sow Early Dutch, Early Stone or Early Queen turnip seed, rake it lightly in and press down the ground with the back of a shovel. When the plants first come up, sprinkle fish oil over them and dust them with plaster every morning until they get into the rough leaf, and you may calculate upon a good bed of early turnips. Should the plants stand too thick, thin them out so as to stand 6 inches apart, and give them two or three workings with the hoe.

**Salisbury.**—Prepare a bed by manuring, digging and raking, and sow a few roots of this excellent root.

**Parsley.**—Sow the seed of this pot-herb early this month.

**Rhubarb or Pie-plant.**—You may set out the plants of this vegetable or sow the seed during the first ten days of this month.

**Horse Radish.**—In the beginning of the month set out a bed of this excellent condiment.

**Artichokes.**—Make new plantations nearly this month.

**Potatoes.**—Early this month plant a bed of this excellent root.

**Okra.**—Sow the seed of this vegetable between the 1st and 15th of the month.

**Red Peppers.**—About the 20th of this month sow your pepper seed.

**Cucumbers and Squashes** may be planted the last week in this month in the open grounds.

**Garden Fruits.**—Any pruning necessary may be performed in the beginning of this month.

**Grapes.**—Cuttings may still be planted, also may grape vine roots be planted out, provided both the one or the other be done in the beginning of the month. The best manure for grape vines would be a compost formed of 4 parts mold 2 parts ashes and 5 parts bone shavings or bone earth, to be thoroughly mixed together.

**Raspberries** may be taken up and transplanted during the first week in this month, they must be well supplied with water during the season.

**Shrubbery** of all kinds may be transplanted during the first ten days of this month. Care must be observed in watering them in periods of drought until they are completely set and commenced growing with strength.

**Seed Beans**, of all kinds, should be often watered, let the watering be moderate.

**Pot Herbs, Medicinal Herbs**, of all kinds, may be planted out, or the seed sown, any time between the 1st and 15th of the month.

With the preceding directions we commit the care of the farmers' gardens to the care of their excellent helpmates knowing full well that all that can be achieved by well directed energies will be accomplished by them; for it is not in the nature of woman to neglect anything in which the comforts of the family may be concerned.

# Orchards, Apples and the Markets.

"David, I am going to quit the nursery business. In twenty-one years fruit will be a drug in New-York city. Just look around this neighborhood! There is Deacon Jones has just set out five hundred trees; Tom Smith 400, and his brother Jim will have 1,000 next spring, and so on at that rate all over the country—grafted fruit, too, none of it for cider. Now what do you suppose is to become of all these apples? I tell you what it is David, we must wind up the nursery business or we shall break flat. Everybody will grow it, but nobody buy it, a few years hence."

This prognostication was made more than twenty years ago by a sensible man engaged in propagating choice fruits for sale in Central New York, and no doubt the speaker honestly believed the days of the nurseryman were well nigh numbered. Brother David, however, was of a different opinion. He did not believe it was so easy to overstock the market with such fruit as no other than American soil and climate can produce. He did not believe "ere twenty years" time would elapse every body would have an orchard, the products of which would be so unsaleable, and the business so unprofitable, the owner could have no desire to plant more or better, or newer varieties of trees; consequently he urged that the business should be perseveringly continued until the dawning of the day was more visible in the horizon.

What has been the result? A sale of 40,000 apple trees and 7,000 of other fruits during the planting season of last year, and the prospect for the next equally good. The very men who had planted 500 have increased 1,000 and some of them have doubled that tenfold; and yet the market is now better than it ever was before for all the choice varieties of the product of orchard, vineyard, or garden. The market is not yet glutted, nor can it be while millions of mouths continually water for the luscious fruits which contrast so advantageously with the sour crabs, "five to the pint," which filled the market twenty years ago. The market cannot be glutted with such fruit as the Newtown pippins, Roxbury Russets, Rhode Island greenings, Baldwin, Bellefleur, Swart, Domino, and a great variety of other excellent winter keeping apples; while the luxury-loving mouths of old England are within two weeks (we have done counting by miles,) of the fruit bearing hills of New-England. Nay, not only New-England and New-York, but the ever bearing trees of the rich plains of that once far away western wild, known in our boyhood as New-Connecticut. But still the market is not glutted, nor will it be, though Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin, shall pour



in their golden treasures of golden pippins, from their unbounded plains of the richest fruit-growing land the world ever saw, while that same world full of people possess the taste they now do for choice, delicious fruits.

Our advice, therefore is, as it has always been, to every man who owns an acre of land—plant trees. Don't be afraid of overstocking the market with any kind of fruit, except such as your father used to grow, and some of you still perpetuate; because the refined and improved tastes of the world demand, and will have, if it is procurable, the best that can be grown. *Quebec Journal.*

**CULTURE OF CRANBERRY VINES.**—The Bell variety or Egg shape is mostly cultivated in New England, and usually bears good crops as they grow wild—but when transplanted and cultivated, the berries are large and abundant, and bears large crops often after two or three years, from one hundred and fifty to two hundred and fifty bushels per acre—are hardy, and can be cultivated in any part of the United States.

The soil best adapted is such as will keep moist through the dry season; they have been raised on land high enough to produce corn and potatoes with a wet substratum under the soil, or a clay and loam. They will not succeed well on dry, sandy, or land liable to bake or become hard in dry weather—but they will produce an abundant crop on poor swampy land that will not produce any other valuable crop, or any wet land after being drained. Dry ground should be plowed and harrowed smooth; in a swamp where a plow will not work, the turf or bog may be peeled off or burnt to get the weeds and grass out. They may be set in fall and spring, as early as the ground will admit until the middle of May. Moss, tan, or anything to retain the moisture, would be beneficial around the plant after transplanting; a little sand around the plant fall and spring, will tend to keep the weeds out.

Planted in drills as you plant strawberry, cabbage and other plants, one and a half to two feet apart. At two feet apart each way, it will take 10,000 plants to the acre. Hoe them slightly at first, until the roots become clinched, and afterwards no other cultivation is needed, unless to keep out weeds and grass. The plants may be expected to run together and cover the whole ground in two or three years. They can be gathered with a cranberry rake made for the purpose, to be procured at the agricultural stores. *N. E. Farmer.*

Great mental endowments do not suppose the absence of bad passions.

**VITALITY OF GARDEN SEEDS.**—Most seeds will vegetate when more than a year old, if they were gathered at the right seasons, and properly preserved. Parsnip seeds quite often fail, but we have used these two and three years old, when they came up well. Garden seeds should be gathered a little previous to full ripeness, and a good way is to cut up the plants—the best parsnip, carrot and onion for instance—and hang them in sheltered places for a week or two, when the seeds will become plump and perfect. Then they should be rubbed out, and placed in boxes or bags, and their names and date of raising legibly marked them. If not all used the first year, you will then know their age. Seeds thus put up should be placed in some dry place, of an equal temperature as is convenient—such as a closet in the centre of the house, or in sheets in the attic, chamber, or workshop, where they would be quite likely to remain good for many years. *N. E. Farmer.*

**CURRENT TREES.**—Having noticed that currant bushes may as well be made trees as shrubs, I concluded to tell you how it may be done. In the spring of 1831 my father commenced a garden, and among other things set cuttings for currant bushes. I determined to experiment on one of these cuttings; and as it grew, I pinched off all the leaves except the top tuft, which I let grow. The cutting was about fourteen inches long, and during the summer the sprout from this grew ten inches. The next spring I pinched off all the leaves to about half way up the first year's growth, so as to leave the lowest limb two feet from the ground. It branched well and became a handsome little dwarf tree. When it came to bear fruit, it was more productive than any other bush in the garden, and the fruit larger.

It was less infested with spiders and other insects; hens could not pick off the fruit, and grass and weeds were more easily kept from the roots, and it was an ornament instead of a blemish. Now I would propose that currant cuttings be set in rows about four or five feet apart each way, (let them be long and straight ones,) and trained into trees. *Mich. Far.*

**BEES AND FRUIT TREES.**—A writer in a literary journal of Paris, states that the bees greatly improve the fructification of fruit trees. Orchards in which several hives are kept, always produce more fruit than those in which there are none. In the province on the Rhine, the fruits are more abundant and finer than any other part of Germany, and there it is the custom to keep large quantities of bees. Plants too, which bees visit, thrive better in the neighborhood of hives.

### Cultivation of Squashes.

As soon as the ground is warm enough to insure quick germination, I dig, on a southern exposure, holes two feet deep, and two feet apart each way, excluding the bottom soil, and retaining the top. The holes should be filled within ten inches of the top with well rotted hog or stable manure; the former I prefer. The holes should then be filled up with the top soil taken out and be allowed to remain three or four days till the hills are thoroughly warmed before planting the seed. Care should be taken to plant the seeds at the proper depth to insure their coming up—in a warm, dry soil from two to three inches, in a cold, wet soil from one to two inches deep.

As soon as the plants appear above the surface, place four bricks, blocks of wood or a small box large enough to place a pane of window glass upon; this will force them along rapidly, and protect them from the depredations of the bugs, &c. They should be watered once a day, till large enough to dispense with the covering, being careful not to apply cold spring water, or at a time when the sun shines upon them. Morning or evening should be set apart for this. I think one good healthy plant in the hill sufficient, as it will produce larger squashes. When the plants begin to cover the grounds, cut off all the runners from the main vine except two or three nearest the root, as these will set first and produce the best. Not more than one or two squashes should be allowed to grow on a vine. Soap suds, or liquid manure, is an excellent application for them while growing, being careful not to apply it too strong, or on the leaves. — *Country Gent.*

**GROWING CUCUMBERS.** Seed sown according to previous directions will now have germinated and produced plants ready for turning out in the farms.

Supposing the hot beds prepared with the best materials on hand, when they have settled, three sticks, six inches around and two feet and a half in length, should be placed crosswise of each sash on the bed, on which place some boards of the same length which will prevent

the heat of the manure from burning the roots. Some rich vegetable mold may be placed on the boards, and the plants set out. A heat from 70° to 75° must be maintained if possible, and the vines sprinkled morning and evening in fine weather with water of the same temperature.

Mold may be added as the plants advance in growth, since they grow more rapidly than when all the mold is applied at once, they must be frequently stopped to induce the growth of fruit-bearing wood. Air must be admitted on every favorable opportunity. Mustard and cress may also be sown thickly in pans and pots, and covered with matting, kept constantly wet, by which means the excellent salad will in a few days be ready for the use; the seed must not be covered with mold. A succession should be kept up, as it is of easy culture, and an excellent salad. — *Am. Ag.*

### Root Crops.

The experience of last year has clearly shown that the consumption of roots has materially increased, not only for the use of the farmer for feeding cattle, but from the great influx of foreign population, the amount of vegetable matter required for sustaining the inhabitants of our large cities is not only greater than formerly, but particular in that class of crops known as root crops. The average price of carrots, parsnips, etc., has been more than double that of former years in the New York market. Ruta Baga turnips are now selling at 87 1-2 cents per bushel; Parsnips at 75 cents, Carrots at 50 cents, and Beets at similar prices.

With the present improved style of tools for cultivating root crops, they are scarcely more expensive during their cultivation than any of the ordinary crops. It is only in the digging or removal from the ground that a greater expense occurs, and this by use of the Little Subsoil Plow is so materially lessened, as not to be important.

The removal of such crops from the soil leaves it in high tilth for future crops, while the amount of constituents taken

from the soil is not so great as with many other kinds of crops.

Carrots are now generally acknowledged to be of great value for fattening cattle, milch cows, and even for working horses; and so long as the same acre of land which will not produce more than 50 bushels of oats, can be made to produce over 800 bushels of carrots, it is evident that the latter is the more profitable crop of the two, and in the vicinity of large cities, if not elsewhere, should replace it as a crop. We have raised during the past year, more than a thousand bushels of parsnips to the acre, and without any material pains-taking beyond good, fair cultivation, and the use of 400 lbs. of Nitrogenized Super-phosphate of Lime to the acre.

The report of the Committee of the American Institute who visited our farm, gives a detailed account of our root crops, from which it will be seen that the average profit of each acre is greater than accrues from ten or more acres of corn, wheat, oats, or any of the usual crops of farm.

Cattle breeders and market gardeners are alike interested in the production of root crops; and, indeed, all farms within short distances of large cities, or where transportation is cheap, should appropriate a greater breadth of land to the culture.

The excuse for not raising carrots has been the labor of weeding, keeping clean, &c. We have already published the methods by which these difficulties may be readily overcome, and the improved tools now being made by Messrs. Rugles, Nourse, Mason and others, for the cleaning of root crops, render their culture simple and easy.—*Working Farmer.*

**AMERICAN HOPS.**—Hops are becoming an important article of foreign as well as of domestic commerce. We are now supplying the English market with the growth of 1854. The hop trade of this country is destined to be one of vast importance, but, as yet, we produce comparatively but few, the breadth of land devoted to their cultivation not exceeding

eight thousand acres, chiefly in New York and East. The average crop and consumption hitherto has not exceeded twenty thousand bales of 200 lbs. to the bale. This year's growth goes beyond the average by at least six to eight thousand bales, and a brisk export demand is the result at remunerative prices—forty cents per pound. Already the exports amount to five thousand bales, worth at least the large amount of four hundred thousand dollars! There is every probability of the foreign demand continuing, as prices range in England from eighty to one hundred and twenty cents per pound, whilst fifteen cents will cover all expenses of shipment, sale, duty, &c. Should this foreign demand continue another week or two, we shall be left with a deficiency on this side, and as malt is seventy-five per cent. above the average price of the past twenty years, brewers will have to advance their prices from five to seven dollars per barrel for the genuine article.—*N. Y. Shipping List.*

#### Cultivation of Rape.

Mr. Levi Bartlett, states in the *Granite Farmer*, that he has tried rape, and thinks that "it will prove a most valuable plant for feeding milch cows during our unusually dry autumns." We do not see why it might not.

Mr. B. says:  
This plant is extensively cultivated in various parts of Europe for the sake of the seed; from which oil is extracted by grinding and pressure, and is used for the purpose of lamination. It is extensively used in England for the succulent food which its thick, fleshy stem and leaves supply to sheep and cows when other fodder is scarce. Large quantities of this seed are annually imported into the United States, at an expense of \$3 or \$4 per bushel, for feeding cage-birds.

A quantity of rape seed has been imported by the Light House Board, with a view of testing the practicability of cultivating the plant in this country for the purpose of manufacturing oil. The seed is distributed in small packages from the Patent Office, among the farmers, who are requested to give a fair trial both in spring and autumn. We presume there is yet a quantity at the Patent Office and any one wishing to experiment with it, could procure seed by writing to one of the Representatives in Congress.

Rape requires somewhat similar cultivation to the turnip; when raised for seed it is an ex-



haunting crop, but cut green for soiling purposes, it would, if adapted to our climate, prove a valuable addition to our forage or fertilizing crops.

**THE CURCULIO.**—A great many persons have given up the idea of raising plums, because they say that there is something that bites the plum before it is grown, which causes the fruit to fall before it is ripe. The past season I have tried four different remedies, all of which are said to keep the curculio from the plum; but only one of the four I found to be worth anything, which was air-slaked lime. As soon as the trees are in flower, begin dusting your crops while they are damp with dew, and continue dusting as often as the lime gets washed off until the fruit is out of danger. The mode of applying the lime is as follows: Be sure that your lime is well slacked, then take a piece of fine, thin cotton, or any cloth that will let the lime pass through, made in the form of a bag. Make it fast to the end of a pole, long enough to reach over the tops of your trees; in this way you can dust 10 or 12 trees all over in ten or fifteen minutes. The trees that I dusted with lime, bore so heavy that they had to be supported with poles, while the trees upon which I tried the other remedies did not have fruit enough to pay for the labor. When the lime gets washed off, lose no time in applying it again; for the curculio will be ready, as soon as he can find the way clear to leave his card on the unfortunate plum. Some of your readers will probably try this remedy; if so, they will please report the result.—*Northern Farmer.*

No legislation aimed at the vices of the poor, while sparing those of the rich, can ever be upheld in this country.

It is one of the worst of errors to suppose that there is another path of safety beside that of duty.

Real fidelity may be rare but it exists in the heart. They only deny its worth and power who never loved a friend, nor labored to make a friend happy.

The three foundations of genius—the gift of God, human exertion, and events of life. The three things that ennoble genius—vigor, discretion, and knowledge.

### Which of the Roots Shall we Raise.

Those who have grown roots of various kinds for many years may have no difficulty in answering this question. But there many farmers, both young and old, who have but little experience in growing root crops. And as all who have made trial of roots, whether for sheep, milch cow, cattle or horses, are disposed, so far as we have heard any expression of opinion, to continue and enlarge the cultivation of them, there must be many who are now, or soon will be, putting the above question to themselves. To assist such in determining the question profitably, we would submit a few statements which seem to go far towards securing a prominent, or perhaps the foremost, place to the beet in some or all its varieties.

Turnips are raised to greater extent both in Great Britain and this country than any other kind of roots, except, perhaps potatoes. But water enters very largely into their composition, so as to detract from their nutritive qualities.

We were not aware of the great superiority of beets over turnips till we met with following statement, made by a reliable authority—Dr. Thomas Anderson, Chemist to the Highland Agricultural Society of Scotland. In the No. of the Transactions or Journal of that Society for March, 1854, Dr. A. states that he had analysed a crop of mangold wurzel grown by M. Telfer, of Ayr, (a model farmer), amounting to 34 tons per acre, and ascertained by that analysis that the nutritive matter produced exceeded two and a half times that of a good, and three and a half times that of an average crop of turnips.

Mr. A. Y. Moore, President of the State Agricultural Society of Michigan, states that the kind of root which has produced the greatest quantity of milk with him, is the sugar beet.

Others have found the sugar beets of superior value, so much so, that one farmer with in our knowledge has raised them as a field crop for a great many years. He says they yield as abundantly as any other root, and are at the same time, more nutritive than any other, with the exception of carrots. He too, thinks they are superior for milch cows, to any other root or vegetable whatever. He informs us that butter made in winter from cows fed on this root in addition to their dry feed of hay, is nearly as great in quantity as in the fall, and nearly, if not quite, as rich in color and quality.—*Country Gentleman.*

Prudes, who take fire so easily at the slightest intimation of impropriety, are like punk, which catches fire instantly after having been once burned.



## The Family Circle.

Conducted by  
Mrs. MARY ARBOTT.

### Flowers.

There is something elevating and refining in flowers. They always shed soft influences over our mind whenever we see them, and lead our mind heavenward, and remind us of some dear one who has been transplanted to the garden of heaven, and is calmly shaded by the tree of life in the glorious presence of Him who has in mercy given to us all that is lovely in heart or nature, to refresh us while we sojourn here. There is language in flowers that speaks to the heart of the sensitive and reflective. Flowers are associated in our mind with all that is refined, pure, gentle, and holy, and it seems to us that no one who loves flowers can be of a gross or low mind. The buds of roses have a peculiar and significant meaning to us whenever we behold them. They bring to our mind subdued and holy feelings, for they are associated with memories of the past. When we were a small child we used to see a bud laid in the bosom of a dear little niece or nephew, when they were prepared to be laid in their last resting place; those little babes we so dearly loved, although we were the youngest of our father's household, and almost a babe ourself. Since then five of our dear little ones have had buds and flowers strowed over their bosoms, preparatory to their being laid under the sod, from whence they shall spring forth with an immortal bloom, and blossom forever in the presence of God, who removed them to his own garden above.

Returning spring flowers bring more vividly to our mind the memory of those beautiful ones, who

"Though lost to sight to memory dear."

With these associations in our minds, why should we not love those beauties of nature which are sure indications of God's love to the children of men? and which also assures us that he who cares for the flowers will also care for us? For he

clothes the fields with grass, and dresses the lillies in their splendor. We would say to young and old, cultivate a love of flowers, for they will do you good, if you study their language and reflect upon their meaning. They will help you to bear the trials of life with a gentle and submissive spirit, and will give you love and confidence in God, and will be a help to you in preparing your own body to be as a flower seed though sown in weakness, yet may be raised in beauty and strength, to bloom forever in the presence of God.

### The Kitchen.

The following extracts we copy, for they meet our views exactly. We like to see the kitchen look as pleasant as any room in the house, for it is there the wife and mother often is, or ought to be, if she is a good housewife; and there the children are sure to be, if mother is there; and there too, the good husband will often be, if he sympathizes at all with his wife. Many of the pleasant associations of home are connected with the kitchen. We think the kitchen ought to be so clean, neat and pleasant that any one of the household might enter it with a smile of satisfaction. The kitchen can look more social than any other room, if the husband and wife meet there with congenial and sympathizing spirits. The children are sure to catch the cheerful spirit. We say, make the kitchen as commodious and convenient as possible; let the wife spend as much time in it as she can spare from other duties, and in this way you will do much to make a happy and contented family circle.

We give to intellect, to morality, to religion, and to all the virtues, the honor that belongs to them. And still, it may be boldly affirmed, that economy, taste, skill, and neatness, in the kitchen, have a great deal to do in making life happy and prosperous. Nor is it indispensibly necessary that a house should be filled with luxuries. All the qualifications for good house-keeping can be displayed as well on a small scale as on a large one. A small

house can be more easily kept clean than a palace. Economy is most needed in the absence of an abundance. Taste is as well displayed in placing the dishes on a pine table, as in arranging the folds of a damask curtain. And skillful cooking is as readily discovered in a nicely baked potato, or in a respectable johnny-cake, as in a nut-brown sir-loin, or a brace of canvass backs. The charm of good house-keeping is in the order, economy, and taste displayed in attention to little things, and these little things have a wonderful influence. A dirty kitchen and bad cooking stove have driven many a one from home to seek for comfort and happiness somewhere else. Domestic economy is a science—a theory of life, which all sensible women ought to study, and practice. None of your excellent girls are fit to be married until they are thoroughly educated in the deep and profound mysteries of the kitchen. See to it, all ye who are mothers, that your daughters are all “accomplished” by an experimental knowledge of good house-keeping.”

We have just received some beautiful flowers from the garden of Mr. Thomas, which we are tending with great care and delight. They are strong and healthy looking flowers. Mr. T. keeps the rarest and newest varieties of plants that are to be found in this vicinity. He takes care of them himself, and appears to take pleasure in his business.

### Our Baby.

Every happy parent who possesses the treasure, has a great deal to say about “our baby.”

We have a baby, too. She is not sitting on the floor laughing, like other babies, but is sleeping. Gently resting in her little bed with her tiny hands folded, and a smile hovering round her lips. There is no quivering of the blue-veined eyelids, or upheaving of the snowy bosom, for she slumbers dreamlessly.

Ye need not tread lightly near her couch, for she will wake never more. The autumn winds sob and wail in the tree branches that wave sadly above her, and the dry dead leaves are her covering.

Alone with the mouldering dead she is lying, while the stars and angels guard her tenderly. Set in the Saviour's diadem is a pure, bright soul-jewel which was once enshrined in her in her baby form, and beautified our home. We miss our sweet darling, but Jesus wanted one more priceless gem in his coronet, and sent the Death Angel for a pure and sparkling one, all undimmed by earth's stains, and he took the holy spirit of our child.

She will never nestle close to our human hearts, or twine her little arms so lovingly around our necks. We would not call her back to earth and its shadows, for where she dwells all is sunlight. She is in the keeping of Him who gave, and we distrust Him not.

We have but parted with her for a season, by and by we will go to her; and perchance she will leave the joyous band that now encircles her, when we enter that bright throng, and greet in heaven her now desolate father and mother.—*Oliver Branch.*

THE GOOD OF CHILDREN.—What would this world be really worth, if it were robbed of the hearty laugh, and merry prattle of little children? What home would be worth the name of “home,” if there were taken from it those little vines, which morning and night put out their little arms to climb and kiss the parent stem? What hearth would look cheerful, if around it were not those little Larks to cheer it of its loneliness and gloom? What a desert is, without an oasis—a forest, without a shrub—a garden, without a flower—a life without a string, so is a home without children. Who does not love little children? Who does not feel happy, when his heart-doors are locked suspiciously against all the rest of the world, in raising its windows and letting these little ones look in, and rummage every secret drawer and cupboard from the basement to the attic? Happy is that man who loves little children. Let him be a stranger in a strange place—let him meet with faces unknown before—let him find no heart which beats sympathetically with his own, and yet the sparkling eyes, the curly locks, the sprightly step, and the happy laughter of children are the same to him here as at home. Their bright faces are like the stars to him, ever twinkling the same wherever he goes; their gay voices are like cheerful murmuring rivulets, or like the happy songs of birds, always sounding the same to his ears. Let him be sad—let the clouds of sorrow gather their darkness over his years—let the snows of adversity chill his better nature—and yet, let him but feel the influence of children, and his soul, like a broken instrument, new repaired and newly strung, vibrates with softer and more melodious tones.

From the N. York Evangelist.

### The Discipline of Life.

"Mother," said Mrs. Edson's second son, "you promised to cover my book before I went to school this morning."

Mrs. Edson was very busy, but she recollected that she had promised to cover the book, and when she made a promise to her children, she was very careful to fulfil it if possible. "Bring me your book," she replied, "and I will try to cover it."

It required but a very short time to cover the book, but the job trifling as it was, was not more than half done, when Mr. Edson, who was preparing to go to his business, contrived to pull a button from the wristband of his shirt.

"Here, wife," said he, "just take your needle and thread, will you, and sew on this button for me."

The book was laid down to sew on the button. Not more than four of the half dozen stitches, which were required to secure the button in its place, had been taken, when the door was thrown open, not very gently or deliberately, by Edward, the eldest son, who advanced into the room, holding up to view the fore-finger of his left hand, which was all bleeding. "Mother," said he, "I have managed to cut my finger. Please do it up for me, quick as you can, for it is almost school-time."

The two remaining stitches were soon taken. Then the roll of old linen and a basin of water were produced, and the cut finger nicely done up. By this time the babe began to imagine that his brothers were getting more than their share of attention, and to secure himself against longer neglect, began to cry heartily.

"What is the matter with my Charley," said Mrs. Edson, taking the babe in her arms, and trying to soothe it.

But here George interposed by saying, "It is almost school-time, mother, and my book is not covered yet."

"Well, come and amuse Charley, and I will finish it."

Charley is set down on the carpet to be amused by George, but the plan fails, because master Charley does not choose to be amused just at this time, but continues his cries, while the book is being covered, and while the mother looks up the Geography, which Lucy left in some strange place the night before, puts a new string into master George's shoes, ties up a bundle which Edward is to leave with Mr. B. on his way to school, and sees the whole party fairly off. Charley is then taken up once more, but his cries are not fairly hushed, when Bridget comes in from the kitchen to say there is a poor woman there who wishes to speak with Mrs. Edson.

But it is unnecessary to go into further de-

tail of the domestic cares—trifling when viewed singly—but by no means small or insignificant in their aggregate—which tried the patience and wore upon the spirits of Mrs. Edson, during all that morning, as they had done many mornings before; but the morning and its cares passed away, and gave place to the afternoon, as mornings always do.

As Mrs. Edson was sitting by the cradle in which Charley was taking his afternoon nap, while Willie, the next oldest, was seated upon the rug, surrounded by his blocks, rearing something which he very gravely informed his mother was a "big church," the door bell rang. Mrs. Edson looked somewhat anxiously towards the door until it was opened, and the cheerful face of Aunt Mary appeared, when the anxious look immediately gave place to a smile of cordial welcome—for Aunt Mary was welcome.

She was one who carried sunshine with her wherever she went, no matter how dark and cloudy the sky might be, and she had a peculiar faculty of drawing into the sunlight too, all those who were so happy as to be thrown into her society. She would take the little world of thought and feeling, cares and anxieties, upon the cloudy side of which they dwelt, and so turn it upon its axis, as to bring them, before they were aware, directly into the sunlight of cheerful hope and lofty courage. She was not one of those persons whose hollow-hearted inquiries after your welfare, lead one to smile, and say that all is well, when covered over by that smile is a fountain of sorrow, and hidden under an assumed gaiety is a heavy heart. There was something in her unaffected good will and hearty sympathy, which led one, at it were, to place the keys of their heart in her hands and pour into her ear the tale of their most hidden joys and sorrows.

Mrs. Edson was not long in communicating to Aunt Mary the fact that she felt thoroughly discouraged, and quite wretched that afternoon; but when Aunt Mary inquired for the cause, Mrs. Edson replied, "Ah! that is the very difficulty, Aunt Mary. If my troubles were sufficiently dignified to be worth repeating, I could bear them better: in such a case one might expect some sympathy, but to be weighed down by a burden of cares and vexations, each one of which is so trifling in itself, that it seems ludicrous even to mention it as a trouble, is hard to bear. Let me think what has vexed me, and put me so out of tune to-day."

Mrs. Edson here paused a moment to recover in her mind the various events of the morning, and at the end of this review she burst into a laugh, for she had a keen sense of the ludicrous. "I declare," said she, "I can't think of a single trouble, which by itself,



is worth repeating, yet in the aggregate, I can assure you I have not found them anything to be laughed at. It seems small enough to speak of a button wanted on a husband's shirt, or a out finger to be closed up, as troubles; but when the button is to be sewed on, and the finger to be done up, a book to be covered, a crying baby to be hushed, a lost Geography to be found, and half a dozen others things to be done all at one time, if they are all small things, when put together they are more than I know how to bear.

"But I am most troubled," continued Mrs. Edson more seriously, "when I compare the petty cares and toils of life, with our destiny as immortal beings, with the infinite results which depend upon the transient period of our sojourn here, and with the glorious hopes inspired by that gospel which brings life and immortality to light. There seems such an incongruity between the two, that I am often tempted to wonder why they are so arranged. I certainly often find it very difficult to bear in mind that there is anything in the world to be done or cared for, except to repair coats and shirts, wash and dress the children, and get them ready for school, and see that the pies and dumplings are made ready for dinner. It often seems as if my energies were all expended on these trifling cares. If the cares and toils of life were more dignified, more in keeping, so to speak, with our destiny as immortal beings, their tendency to elevate the soul, and fit it for a nobler, better life than this, would then be more apparent.

Mrs. Edson was here interrupted by Willie, who had grown tired of his seat upon the rug, and his blocks, and left them to seek for some other source of amusement. Going to a small workstand, he began to pull at the drawer.

"Willie," said to his mother, "you must let that drawer alone. Let it alone, and come away, Willie."

Willie looked at his mother, and let go of the drawer for a moment, but soon had his hands upon it again. "Does Willie hear mother," Mrs. Edson now asked. "Let that drawer alone, and come away from the stand."

But Willie still stood by the stand, looking very undecided, though he did not again offer to touch the drawer. "If Willie don't mind mother, and come away from the stand, I shall have to punish him," said Mrs. Edson, very decidedly. Willie now walked slowly away from the stand, and as he did so, Aunt Mary observed to his mother, "Are you not making too serious a matter of a very small thing?"

Mrs. Edson looked up at Aunt Mary with some surprise, for she was not in the habit of hearing her reason in this way, on the subject

of family government, but she replied earnestly, "It surely is not a small thing that my child should be taught to obey me. His welfare for this world, and the world to come, will depend upon his learning this lesson."

"But surely," replied Aunt Mary, "it was a small thing in itself for Willie to pull out that drawer, and still smaller to stand by the side of it. Is there not an incongruity in teaching him so important a lesson as obedience to parental authority, my means of a thing so trifling in itself?"

"In what more appropriate way could I teach him a lesson of obedience at his age. It seems to me that a thing so simple is just adapted to his capacities, and is the best possible way of teaching him the lesson I wish him to learn. What parent would wish to give his child, just learning to walk, his first lesson of the necessity of care, by placing him upon the edge of a precipice, where one false or tottering step would prove fatal? Who would not rather prefer that his first fall should be over the footstool, and on the soft parlor carpet, and his first lesson of carefulness be learned there?"

"These views my dear niece, are too perfectly correct to be opposed, but let us apply the principle involved in them to the subject on which we were conversing when we were interrupted by Willie. What are we all, while dwellers here in the body, but children not only in capacity and maturity, but also wayward children who need to be trained and disciplined? You feel that you are teaching your child a lesson of the greatest value and importance, affecting his character for time and eternity, simply by securing his obedience to your commands in a thing exceedingly trifling in itself, and it is by just such lessons as these, that you expect to establish the habit of obedience, so priceless in its value, preparing him both to obey and govern, when he reaches adult years. Now if by means equally simple, and seemingly disproportioned to the result to be obtained by them, our heavenly Father is preparing and disciplining us for a nobler and better life than this, can we not see that there is wisdom and fitness in the one case, as well as in the other? Can we not learn patience, submission, meekness, and self-denial, from the cares and toils of life, as well as the child can learn the great and vital principle of obedience to lawful authority, from the simple lessons by which he is taught this obedience."

"When we reflect how frail and erring we are, would we, if we could, be made ruler over many things, until we have learned to be more faithful to the few things, now committed to us. It was a very small thing, when viewed by itself, for Willie to stand by the side of

that drawer, but when connected with a lesson of filial obedience, it lost its insignificance, and became a matter of interest and importance. So it is with the cares and toils which constitute so large a share of the discipline of life. If we view them disconnected with the object which they are designed to accomplish, they will seem trifling and insignificant. But when we view them, as we ever should, in connection with the great design to be accomplished by them, they are at once stripped of all their littleness, and become invested with a dignity and importance well calculated to inspire the mind with cheerful hope and lofty courage."

"I believe I have looked at these things in a wrong light," replied Mrs. Edson. "If I had viewed them more in the light in which you now present them, I believe I could have borne them better."

"If you will consider yourself at all times, but as a child whom your heavenly Father is leading, and quickening, and disciplining by the means which he in his infinite wisdom sees to be most appropriate to your present state of imperfection, darkness, and ignorance, you will be greatly assisted to bear the toils and cares of life. Such a view of them will invest them with that dignity and importance, of the want of which you complain, and will lead you to derive the strength to bear them, from the same source from which you would seek strength to bear any trial." C. M. T.

### Ill Nature.

Ellen, I wish you would run up stairs and get for me the little apron which you will find upon the table."

"I shall not do any such thing. You may get it yourself. It is pretty well if I must run your errands."

This conversation took place between two sisters, the eldest of whom, named Mary, had charge of a little baby, who was creeping about the floor.

"I would get the apron myself, if I could leave the child," continued Mary, "but since you are so ill natured it is no matter."

The mother of the children had gone out that afternoon, and had promised that on her return home she would make each of them a present, if they had been good. Now do you think that Ellen deserved a present, when she was so disobliging?

As soon as her mother entered the door, Ellen ran to her to claim the promised present.

"Have you been good, Ellen?"

"O, very good. I have been quiet all the time you have been gone. I haven't thrown down the chairs, nor scratched the tables, nor

broken the china, nor injured anything."

"And you have done all in your power to assist your sister, I suppose," said her mother; "you have been kind and gentle and in a good humor all the afternoon."

Ellen hung down her head, for she did not like to tell an untruth.

"Here is the present," said her mother, handing her a beautiful little work box. "Of course you are conscious of having deserved it, and here is another for Mary."

Ellen eagerly took the box from her mother's hand. She opened and examined its contents. It contained a pair of scissors, a silver thimble, a needle case, some little articles made of ivory, and a looking-glass fastened underneath the cover. It was very pretty, and it took her some time to examine it.

"How useful this will be to keep my needles and work in," said Ellen, "and how neatly it will look in my drawer! But—but have I come fairly by it? Did I do all in my power to assist my sister? I was ill natured, and do not deserve the box. It is not mine."

Ellen felt too unhappy to keep the box, and at last she sorrowfully returned it, saying, "Mother, I was not good. I do not deserve the present which you have been so kind as to buy for me."

"Why—have you been doing anything that is wrong?"

"Yes, mother, I was very ill natured towards Mary, just now when she asked me to go up stairs."

"Well, Ellen, I will place the box on the shelf. When you think that you have overcome that habit of petulance and ill nature you may take it for your own."

Three days after this scene Ellen entered the parlor. She looked at the box, and then placed her finger to her lips and then reflected. "Why have I been so much happier?" said she, "for these three days past than I was before? It has not been because I hoped to have the box, for I could have taken that at any time. It must have been because I have left off that ill natured habit which is so disagreeable to others as well as to myself. Shall I take the box now? No, I think I will wait a little longer."

With great self-denial Ellen refrained from taking the box for a whole month. At the end of that time she took it down, and carrying it to her mother said, "Here mother, is the box which you gave me, and though it is very pretty I do not think it has made me so happy as the victory which I have gained over my ill nature."

"You speak truth, Ellen," said her mother; "the ill natured child is, after all, a greater enemy to herself than any one else; while, on the contrary, she who studies to make those

around her happy, will be happier than jewels of riches can make her."

Will my young readers take a hint from this simple but true story? Our lives are short; and you may never be happier in this world than now that you are children. Why should we embitter each other's moments by ill nature and petulance? Why should we not strive to render each other every obligation in our power, especially when such an act is a means of insuring our own happiness.

Ill natured children will be disliked by young and old. Their selfishness will render them an object of aversion to others, while their cross and dissatisfied humor will make them a burden to themselves. Let us look to the example of our meek and loving Savior, and act according to his precepts.

### Asa and Ira.

Asa and Ira were two brothers, whose farms lay side by side in a fertile interval.

When the corn, the oats and the barley were springing up, the weeds took advantage of the rich soil and came up with them.

"Do you see," said Asa, "what a hold the weeds are taking? There is danger of their choking out the crops entirely."

"Well, well, we must be resigned," replied Ira; "weeds as well as grain were a part of the Creator's plan, and there is no use in murmuring about them." And he lay down for his usual afternoon doze.

"I can only be resigned to what I cannot help," said Asa. So he went to work and plowed and hoed until his fields were clear of weeds.

"The army-worms are in the neighborhood," said Asa to Ira one day. "They have eaten through the adjoining meadows, and are moving towards us."

"Ah!" exclaimed Ira, "they will surely destroy what the weeds have not choked out. I will immediately retire to pray that their course may be stopped or turned aside."

But Asa replied, "I pray betimes, every morning, for strength to do the work of the day."

And he hastened to dig a trench round his land, which the armyworms could not pass—while Ira returned only in season to save a small portion of his crops from their ravages.

"Do you see, Ira?" said Asa, another morning, the river is rising very fast. There is but a slender chance of preventing our farms from being overflowed."

"Alas! it is judgment upon us for our sins, and what can we do?" cried Ira, throwing himself in despair upon the ground.

"There are no judgments so severe as those which our own sloth brings upon us," replied Asa.

And he went quickly and hired workmen, with whose help he raised an embankment withstood the flood, while Ira witnessed, with blank looks and folded hands, the destruction of his harvests.

"There is one consolation," said he, "my children, at least, are left me."

But while Asa's sons grew up strong and virtuous men, among Ira's there was a drunkard, a gambler, and a suicide.

"The ways of the Lord are not equal," complained Ira to his brother. "Why are you always prosperous, while I am afflicted, and my old age disgraced?"

"I only know this," replied Asa, "that Heaven has always helped me to treat the faults of my children as I did the weeds, the caterpillars and the flood; and that I have never presumed to send a petition upward without making Toil, my right-hand servant, the messenger of my prayer."

**BEANS FOR SOUP.** The use of beans as an article of food, is not so considerable as it should be. Beans are the most nutritious of all kinds of food used by man. Chemical analysis, and the experience of those who make extensive use of them, demonstrate this. Besides, they are the most economical food which can be used for the support of a family. Those who find the times hard, are most respectfully invited to try the experiment.

To provide an excellent dinner—healthful, palatable add nutritious—take a pint of beans, with one gallon of water, and the beef bones we are accustomed to throw in the street. Boil all together, (adding a few potatoes if convenient,) until the beans become soft—add salt and pepper to suit the taste, and dinner is ready. Such a dinner costs next to nothing, and will rest easier upon the stomach than venison steaks, quail or partridge, washed down with champagne.

A piece of fat beef thrown into the pot, will give a pretty good flavor to soup, porridge, or such a dish as I have named. But if you want the genuine flavor use bones—such bones as are usually thrown away. There is a flavor obtained from the bones which is not obtained from the fat, which is not given from solid meat.

The first step towards virtue is to abstain from vice. No man has true, sound sense who is immoral.

There is a sacredness in tears. They are not the mark of weakness, but of power. They speak more eloquently than ten thousand tongues. They are the messengers of overwhelming grief, of deep contrition, and of unspeakable love.







## AYER'S PILLS.

### FO ALL THE PURPOSES OF A FAMILY PHYSIC.

There has long existed a public demand for an effective purgative Pill which could be relied on as safe and perfectly safe in its operation. This has been prepared to meet that demand, and an extensive trial of its virtues has conclusively shown what success it accomplishes the design. It is easy to make a physical Pill, but not so easy to make the best of all Pills—one which should have none of the objections, but all the advantages of every other. This has been attempted here, and with what success we would respectfully submit to the public decision. It has been unfortunate for the patient hitherto that almost every purgative medicine is acrimonious and irritating to the bowels. This is not. Many of them produce so much gripping pain and revulsion in the system, as to more than counterbalance the good to be derived from them. These Pills produce no irritation or pain, unless it arises from a previous existing obstruction, or derangement in the system purely vegetable, no harm can arise from their use in any quantity; but it is better that any medicine should be taken judiciously. Minute directions for their use in the several diseases to which they are applicable are given on the box. Among the complaints which have been speedily cured by them, we may mention Liver Complaint, Bilious various forms of Jaundice, Indigestion, Languor and Loss of appetite, Distress, Irritability, Bilious Headache, Bilious Fever, Fever and Ague, Pain in the Side and Loins, for in truth, all these are but the consequence of diseased action of the Liver. As an aperient, they afford prompt and sure relief in Constipation, Piles, Colic, Dysentery, Humors, Scrophula and Scoury, Colds, with soreness of the body, illness and impurity of the blood in short, any and every case where a purgative is required.

They have also induced some of the most successful cures in Rheumatism, Gout, Dropsy, Gravel, Erysipelas, Palsy of the Face, Pain in the Back, Stomach and Side. They should be freely taken in the spring of the year, to purify the blood and prepare the system for the change of seasons. An occasional dose stimulates the stomach into healthy action, and restores the appetite and vigor. They purify the blood, and by their stimulant action on the circulatory system, remove the strength of the body, and restore the wasted or diseased energies of the whole organism. Hence an occasional dose is advantageous even though no serious derangement exists; but unnecessary dosing should never be carried too far, as even purgative medicine reduces the strength, when taken to excess. The thousand cases in which a physic is required cannot be enumerated here, but they suggest themselves to the reason of everybody, and it is confidently believed this pill will answer a better purpose than any thing which has hitherto been available to mankind. When their virtues are once known the public will no longer doubt what remedy to employ when in need of a cathartic medicine.

Being sugar wrapped they are pleasant to take, and being purely vegetable, no harm can arise from their use in any quantity.

For minute directions, see the wrapper on the box.

PREPARED BY DR. JAMES C. AYER,  
Practical and Analytical Physician,  
LOWELL, MASS.

Price 25 cents per box. Five boxes for \$1.00.

Sold by BARNARD, ADAMS & CO., St. Louis, and by all Druggists.

**PURELY BRED  
SUFFOLK AND ESSEX PIGS**

FANCY FOWLS AND LONG-EARED BABBIES,

For sale by **W. S. LUNT,**  
Findlay, Ohio.

## COPARTNERSHIP.

C. M. SAXTON, No. 152 FULTON STREET,  
this day associated with himself, as copartner in the  
Publishing Business, AUGUSTUS O. MOORE.  
The business will hereafter be conducted under the firm  
of C. M. SAXTON & CO.  
New York, February 21st, 1855.

## NEW BOOKS.

**C. M. SAXTON & CO.,**  
AGRICULTURAL BOOK PUBLISHERS,  
No 152 FULTON STREET, NEW YORK, have in press;

### The Practical Land Drainer,

Being a Treatise on Draining Land, in which the most-improved systems of Drainage are explained, and their differences and comparative merits discussed; with full Directions for cutting and making of Drains, with Remarks upon the various Materials of which they may be composed. With many Illustrations. By B. Mear, Landscape Gardener. Price 50 cents.

### The Practical Fruit, Flower, and Kitchen Gardener's Calendar.

By Patrick N. M. Editor by G. Emerson, M. D., Editor to "Johnson's Farmer's Encyclopedia." With Notes and Additions, by R. G. Pardee, Author of "Manual of the Strawberry Culture." With Illustrations. Price, \$1.25.

### Downing's Landscape Gardening.

C. M. SAXTON & Co., No 152 Fulton street have in press a new and elegant edition of a treatise on the Theory and Practice of

### Landscape Gardening.

Adapted to North America; with a view to the improvement of country Residences, comprising Historical Notices and General Principles of the Art. Directions for Laying Out Grounds, and Arranging Plantations, the Description and Cultivation of Hardy Trees, Decorative Accessories to the House and Grounds, the Foundation of Pieces of Artificial Water, Flower Gardens, etc., with Remarks on Rural Architecture, by A. J. Downing. Price, \$3.50.

### JUST PUBLISHED.

### Youatt and Martin on the Hog.

A Treatise on the Breeds, Management, and Medical Treatment of Swine, with directions for Salting Pork, and Curing Bacon and Hams. By William Youatt, Esq. Illustrated with engravings drawn from life. Edited by Ambrose Stevens. Price, 75 cents.

### Pardee on Strawberry Culture.

A Complete manual for the Cultivation of the Strawberry, with a description of the best varieties.

Also, Notices of the Raspberry, Blackberry, Currant, Gooseberry, and Grape, with directions for their cultivation, and the selection of the best varieties. "Every grower here recommended has been proved, the plans of others tried, and the result is here given." With a valuable Appendix, containing the observations and experience of some of the most successful cultivators of these fruits in our country. Price, 50 cents.

### Elliott's American Fruit Grower's Guide in Orchard and Garden.

Being a compend of the History, Modes of Propagation, Culture, &c., of Fruit Trees, and Shrubs, with descriptions of nearly all the varieties of Fruits cultivated in this country; and Notes of their adaptation to localities, soil, and a complete list of Fruits worthy of cultivation. By F. A. Elliott, Pomologist. Price, \$1.25. The above will be sent postage paid, to any part of the Union.

NEW  
AGRICULTURAL  
WAREHOUSE



AND  
SEED STORE.

**DAVID LANDRETH, of Philadelphia,**

Announces to all whom it may interest, that he has located at  
No. 6 Levee and No. 6 Old Market Square, ST. LOUIS,  
CITY BUILDINGS, Levee, between Market and Walnut,—principal entrance  
OLD MARKET SQUARE—~~the~~ Sign of the PLOW.

## A BRANCH OF HIS ESTABLISHMENT,

Where will be constantly kept a complete assortment of MACHINERY adapted to the FARM, PLANTATION, and GARDEN. His long practical experience in this branch of business qualifies him to judge of the relative merits of IMPLEMENTS, and none but those of real value will find place in

## Landreth's Agricultural House,

SEEDS of all description will receive an important share of attention, ESPECIALLY THOSE FOR THE GARDEN, which being the produce of his own grounds, and reared under his personal inspection, will be found, on trial, superior to those usually offered for sale.

The undersigned being charged with the direction of LANDRETH'S AGRICULTURAL HOUSE, ST. LOUIS, respectfully invites the patronage of his friends and the public, assuring them of his best exertions to serve them satisfactorily.

**GEO. BURNET, Jr.**

CONSTANTLY ON HAND AT

## LANDRETH'S AGRICULTURAL HOUSE,

No. 6 Levee and No. 6 Old Market square,

**PLOWS**, in great variety.  
**CULTIVATORS**, or **HOE HARROWS**, various patterns.  
**CORN SHELLERS**, for hand and horse power.  
**STRAW AND CHAFF CUTTERS**, the most approved.  
**CORN AND COB CRUSHERS**.  
**CIDER MILLS**.  
**SAUSAGE MEAT CUTTERS**.  
" **STUFFERS**.  
**FARMERS' PORTABLE FUR-**

**NACES AND BOILERS**.  
**FANNING MILLS**.  
**CHEESE and LARD PRESSES**.  
**CHURNS**, most approved.  
**ROOT CUTTERS**, for preparing Beets, Turnips, &c., for Cattle.  
**DRILLS**, for Farm and Garden.  
**REVOLVING HAY RAKES**.  
And nearly all IMPLEMENTS adapted to the tillage of the soil and harvesting crops.



### THE BEST OF ITS CLASS.

**MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER**, is the Leading American weekly AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY & FAMILY NEWSPAPER. Its actual circulation exceeds by many thousands, that of any other agricultural or similar journal in either America or Europe—while it is, beyond dispute, the **First** of its class in Merit and Usefulness. The Agricultural, Horticultural, Mechanical and Scientific, Educational, Literary and News Departments of the **RURAL** embrace a greater variety of Practical, Timely, Useful and Entertaining matter than is given in any other journal extant. In testimony whereof, and of its ability and popularity, read these

#### NOTICES FROM PROMINENT JOURNALS.

THE **RURAL NEW-YORKER** is a paper the fame of which is without a blot. Characteristically Agricultural, it is in the broadest sense a Family Paper, one which may be admitted without doubt as to its tendency. It has an immense circulation, and merits patronage wider still.

[New York Recorder.]

Its leading feature, perhaps, is agricultural; but in the departments of the Arts, the Sciences, Education, History, Literature and the Daily News, it is most ably and admirably sustained—is an honor to the Newspaper family.—Michigan Christian Herald.

No paper in this or any other country has ever run a more prosperous career. It is not only a favorite in the rural districts, but decidedly popular in the cities.—Louisville Journal.

MR. MOORE ought to make a fortune out of his journal, and we trust he will, for he is helping to make the fortune of the country. We bid him "God speed."—Ohio Statesman.

No paper comes so near our idea of perfection, for a secular family paper, as the **RURAL**. It has always maintained a high moral standard.—N. Y. Observer.

In our opinion the **Rural New-Yorker** is the best Agricultural, Literary and Family paper extant.—Pennsylvania Herald and Whig.

#### STYLE, FORM AND TERMS.

THE **RURAL** is printed on Copper-plate Type and otherwise materially improved. With an able corps of Editors, and every facility for publishing in best style, the **RURAL** far EXCEEDS all rivals and imitators in both CONTENTS and APPEARANCE. Each No. contains eight Double Quarto pages (forty columns) printed on superior paper, illustrated with appropriate and handsome Engravings. A new quarter commenced April 7th, and hence that is good time for subscribers to commence.

TERMS—\$2 a year—\$1 for six months, in advance.—Great reduction and liberal inducements to those who act as Agents or form clubs. Specimen numbers, prospectuses, premium lists, &c., sent free; give us your address.—Money properly inclosed, mailed at our risk, if addressed to

D. D. T. MOORE.

Rochester, N. Y.

### The Wool Grower and Stock Register.

THE SEVENTH VOLUME of this valuable Journal commences with January, 1866, under favorable auspices, and improved both in Matter and Manner,—the publisher having resolved to spare no reasonable effort or expense to render the work indispensable to all interested in its subjects and objects. It is the ONLY American Journal devoted to the important interests of Wool and Stock Husbandry—and valuable to EVERY owner of Sheep. Each number comprises

THIRTY-TWO LARGE OCTAVO PAGES!

Printed in best style, on fine white paper, and illustrated with superior Engravings. The present volume will embody a large amount of useful and reliable information on the breeding, rearing and profitable management of Domestic Animals. Careful Reviews of the Wool, Cattle, Grain and Provision Markets are given in each No.—an invaluable feature.

TERMS—Fifty Cents a Volume, or One Dollar a Year. Liberal reduction to Agents and Clubs. Now is the time to subscribe! Specimen numbers sent free. Money at our risk, if properly mailed, to

D. D. T. MOORE, Rochester, N. Y.

### Fenn's Steam Ferry on Missouri River.

FORMERLY KNOWN AS HOWELL'S FERRY.

NOTICE is hereby given to the traveling public that the undersigned has built a large and substantial Steam Ferry Boat, which will be placed on the above Ferry on the 15th inst., and will, from that time forward, be kept in complete running order, always ready to accommodate all persons wishing to cross at this point. The undersigned pledges himself that care and dispatch shall be used at this ferry, the charge of which, with Messrs. B. J. Steele and Jas. A. Cummings, who will be always on hand, and will devote their entire attention to it.

The Central or Olive street plank road terminates at this point on the Missouri River, and is nearly completed. Persons traveling to the upper counties on the north side of the Missouri River, will save by this route about ten miles travel.

WM. F. FENN.

### Office of the Missouri State Agricultural Society.

BOONVILLE, MO., March 1st, 1866.

Pursuant to an order of the Board of Directors of the Missouri State Agricultural Society, made at the last October Fair, there will be a meeting of the Board held at the Law Office of J. L. STEPHENS, in the city of Boonville, on Monday, the 7th day of May next, to prepare the Premium List for the October Fair, 1866, and to transact such other business as the interests of the Society may require.

All persons desirous of offering suggestions, in regard to the next Premium List, will please forward them to the Recording Secretary in time to be passed upon at the above named meeting of the Directors.

J. L. STEPHENS.

### Extension of Stay!

In consequence of the accumulated demands on his attention, Dr. FITCH finds it impossible to leave St. Louis on the 10th of April, as proposed, without leaving to the disappointment of many who desire to consult him; he has therefore concluded to forego his minor appointments and extend his stay in this city till

Friday Evening, May 15th, 1866.

Those wishing to avail themselves of his system of treating THROAT and PULMONARY diseases, more particularly Consumption, Asthma and Chronic Bronchitis, by Medical Inhalations, Mechanical and Constitutional Remedies, are now offered an opportunity which cannot soon recur but all who wish his advice are particularly requested to call as early as possible, as he has almost uniformly found it impossible to give the necessary attention to all who crowd around him during the last few days of his appointment.

Until the time above specified, Dr. Fitch may be consulted daily (Sabbath excepted), from the hours of ten to four, at his rooms at the Virginia Hotel, for all forms of incipient or seated diseases of the lungs, and for all derangements of the system, preceding or giving rise to pulmonary diseases, particularly catarrh, dyspepsia, constipation and female complaints, in the treatment of which latter class of diseases, the employment of appropriate MECHANICAL REMEDIES, in conjunction with the necessary medicine, enables him to effect far more than ever has been or ever can be accomplished by medicine alone.

Persons wishing to consult, but unable to visit Dr. Fitch, can do so by sending him a written statement of their case, to which a prompt answer will be returned—giving opinion of case, and stating expense of treatment. Where it is possible, Dr. Fitch always prefers to make personal examination, as it is highly desirable to ascertain the precise condition of the lungs and heart, and his constant practice in auscultation, enables him to determine this with a degree of certainty which can only be attained by years of constant practice and close and expensive observation. Persons who may consult Dr. Fitch may continue to correspond with him in New York, without further expense.

### WOOL!

The highest market price will be paid for WOOL by the subscriber,

KENNETH MACKENZIE.

No. 12 Pine street, St. Louis, Mo.

APRIL,

MISSOURI

## BREAKING PLOWS!

RODERICK OWEN

MANUFACTURING at his old stand at TISKILWA, Bureau County, Illinois, a large quantity of the Horizontal and Perpendicular CENTRE-DRAFT BREAKING PLOWS, (except those made by his sons, at Laclair, Scott County, Iowa,) that are made East or West, North or South. His Plows are warranted to do the same amount of work, with from 20 to 50 per cent. less power than any other Plow—requiring only from 225 to 300 pounds draft to pull and turn a 14 inch furrow, 4 inches deep, in clean tough soil, as tested by the dynamometer: thus making TWO HORSES the most convenient and profitable for breaking prairie, and then putting it in the power and convenience of every farmer to

**Break his own Prairie, and choose his own Time for doing it.**

The Iowa State Agricultural Fair, held at FAIRFIELD, October, 1884, awarded him a Diploma for the best Breaking Plow. The Committee to whom the subject was referred, say, in their report, "That it is the best Breaking Plow that has ever come under their observation." Stated, Thos. C. Olcott President, and D. F. Stiller, Secretary.

His Plows never failed to take the Premium wherever they have been tested; and given universal satisfaction wherever they have been used; and he could bring the testimony of hundreds if it were necessary, to establish their superior excellence and practical utility. But he thinks written testimonials are unnecessary, as there is scarcely a neighborhood in Iowa, or Illinois, where there is not some one who has some knowledge of them.

The peculiar advantages these Plows have over all others, are:

1. They are lighter draught, the friction being taken off the land side, and the mold board being composed of round rods, the friction is lessened on that side.
2. They are the best better. The rods being adjusted by means of all screws, you are prepared to lay the soil in any position desired.
3. They endure longer, because the friction is taken off. No joint of the Plow need be parted in sharpening or repairing, except something should break, as the beam or shaft.
4. They are cheaper. You always get two shares, with each Plow, so that the team need not be stopped to sharpen, for while sharpening one share the other can be used, and you can plow on to your heart's content.

Always make 15 inch Plows for two horses, and 18, 20, 22 and 24 inch Plows to order.

This superior Plow is for sale in St. Louis, at Manufacturer's prices, adding costs of transportation, by E. ABBOTT.

VALLEY FARMER OFFICE AND FARMERS' WAREHOUSE, 218 Broadway, and 203 Fourth street, St. Louis, Mo.

## Sigerson's Nursery

The proprietors of the above Nursery, located seven miles south of St. Louis, are prepared to furnish their customers the present Fall and coming Spring with almost every variety of Fruit, Shade and Ornamental Shrubby, Greenhouse Plants, Roses, &c. Their Descriptive Catalogue for 1885 is now ready for distribution, and will be forwarded free of charge to all post-paid applicants.

Orders received by mail or otherwise will receive our best attention—will be carefully packed and shipped as directed. Our terms being cash on the delivery of trees in St. Louis or on board Steamboats parties ordering trees or plants, should either remit us the amount or furnish us with a responsible city reference. JOHN SIGERSON & SONS, St. Louis, Mo. 1885.

## PRINTING OFFICE.

The Printing Office connected with the Valley Farmer, at our new place of business, No. 203 Fourth Street, is now in complete order for executing every description of

Letter Press Printing.



## BUCK'S IMPROVED PATENT COOKING STOVE.

The subscribers have just got out six new and heavy patterns of the above celebrated Stove, in which we have made several valuable improvements, which makes them not only the best baking, but the most durable and perfect Stove in use. And we offer the Stove confidently as the best Stove made, and invite all in want of a good Cook Stove to examine our new Buck's. Every Stove will be warranted to bake perfectly even, and give entire satisfaction, or we will refund the money in full.

In this Stove the fire is brought directly under and very close to the boilers; and the oven which is the full size of the Stove, and much larger than that of any other Stove of the same size, is so constructed that the heat passes in flues around it in such a manner as to give it a perfectly even heat at top and bottom. Wherever this stove has been introduced, it has obtained a decided preference over all others, and will be found, by any one giving it a trial, to possess such unequalled excellencies in performing the various operations in cooking, and so great a saving of both labor and fuel, as to make it the interest of every family to possess one.

During the time Buck's stoves have been before the public, there have been issued from the Patent office a very large number of new patents of various of Cooking Stoves. These Stoves have each in turn been the nine days wonder of their season, and have then died away, to give place to some new thing, equally unsatisfactory and equally ephemeral.

In all this time, the reputation of Buck's Stove has Stove inventors found it necessary in order to sell their wares, to counterfeit as nearly as possible the form and then by diligent efforts, attempt to palm off their productions upon the public as an 'improvement' on the Buck Stove.

The simple fact that such trickery is resorted to shows at least, that in their estimation Buck's Stoves have a reputation beyond everything else in the shape of a cooking apparatus. No Stoves have been made yet which gives such uniform satisfaction wherever they have been well put up and fairly used, and we challenge the world to produce their equal, in so perfect a combination of all the points, essential to a good Cooking Stove. We respectfully invite purchasers at Wholesale and Retail, to examine our assortment of Stoves and Hollow Ware, which will be found the largest in the City, and we pledge ourselves to sell as low as can be bought in this, or any other Western Market. We would invite the attention of those in want of large Cooking Stoves, for Hotels, Seminaries, large Boarding Houses, etc., to our new patterns of large Hotel Stoves, being the largest cast Stoves in the West.

BUCK & WRIGHT.

205 & 207 Main st., St. Louis, Mo.  
January, 1884. Opposite Missouri Hotel.

## PENNOCK'S PATENT WHEAT DRILLS

Manufactured by J. B. RENTON,  
Belleville, Ill.

The subscriber, agent for the sale of the above Planter, announces to the farmers of the West, that a much larger machine has been manufactured this than any previous season, and that they have been gotten up in a superior style, which will raise them still higher in the estimation of the public.

This machine is known to be the best planter now in use. At the World's Fair, held in the New York Crystal Palace, a Bronze medal, with special appreciation, as first and highest premium on Drills, was awarded to the above planter. It has also received the approbation and highest premium, at all the State and County Agricultural Societies at which it has been exhibited. It will neither injure or waste the grain, nor is it liable to choke with white capeweed straw. It is unsurpassed for simplicity, durability, lightness of draught, and for the facility and precision with which it is regulated to seed any desired quantity per acre.

This machine operates well on all kinds of land, and is not injured by coming in contact with roots, rocks, &c. It will plant point rows and all irregular shaped fields without sowing any part twice over, with a saving of 30 to 50 per cent. in labor. It will with ease plant from 10 to 12 acres per day of wheat, oats, barley or other small grain. It will save from 1 to 2 pecks of seed per acre, and yields from 3 to 5 bushels of wheat more to the acre, and in barley the difference is still larger, by distributing the grain uniformly at any desired depth, and leaving a ridge of earth between the rows; the roots of the young plant are protected and invigorated during the winter by the action of the frost, rain moldering the earth upon them, instead of being thrown out and exposed as in broad casts. On this account the stalk is stronger and less subject to mildew, and is not so liable to injury by the fly. The farmer is frequently prevented by rain from harrowing his grain after it is sown, which harrowing is needful with this Machine as it completes it at once.

Teamman has to travel sixteen and a half miles to put in ten acres, which is not more than a reasonable day's work. Any boy who is strong enough to gear a pair of horses and hitch them to a wagon, can be taught in fifteen minutes how to manage this Drill.

Valley Farmer Office, 203 Fourth St. St. Louis, Mo.

## FRANCIS MINOR, ATTORNEY AT LAW,

Office south-east corner Third & Chestnut streets  
ST. LOUIS, MO.

Particular attention given to the INVESTIGATION  
of TITLES to Real Estate and conveyancing.

DR. McKELLOPS,

## SURGEON DENTIST

Fourth street, opposite the Court House,  
St. Louis, Mo.

## FOUR POINTS!!

All citizens possessing common sense invariably purchase their

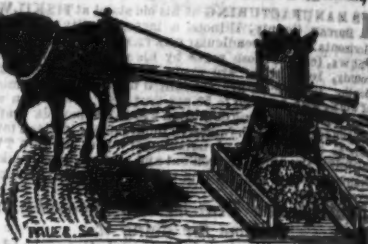
## Boys' Clothing

at the renowned TOM THUMB STORE, 22 NORTH THIRD STREET, between Locust and Vine. This announcement will be sufficient to those strangers who arrive here daily, in search of

## RELIABLE GOODS.

Remember the Four Points of this establishment—  
QUICK SALES, FAIR PROFITS, GENERAL SATISFACTION, AND NO MISTAKE.

## SCOTT'S LITTLE GIANT Corn and Cob Mill,



PATENTED MAY 16, 1854

Is doubtless an invention among the most important of modern times, for the use of well advised farmer and stock feeder—and the universal favor which it has been received from the first, more than anything else attests its utility and superiority.

For portability, simplicity of construction, and convenience of use the Little Giant has no equal: it weighs from 3 to 5 hundred lbs., according to size, can be put in operation by the farmer in 20 minutes, without expense or mechanical aid, then adjusted and used with convenience by anybody.

The Little Giant has received the First Premiums at every State Fair from Missouri to Maryland the past Fall, and that in the most complimentary manner.

These Mills are guaranteed in the most positive manner against breakage or derangement, and warranted to grind feed from ear corn, and grain or shominy from shelled corn, with a degree of ease and convenience for farm purposes never attained before.

The subscribers are now prepared to furnish the trade with improved patterns and sizes, to suit the varied wants of all.

No. 2 is offered at \$44 complete, ready for attaching the team, and warranted to grind 10 bushels of feed per hour with one horse. No. 3 at \$55, will grind 15 bushels per hour.

No. 4 at \$66 will grind 20 bushels per hour with two horses.

SCOTT & BURT,  
BROADWAY, St. Louis.

Liberal discounts made to dealers.  
STATE AND COUNTY RIGHTS FOR SALE

J. J. DONEGAN

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in

## SILKS, FANCY AND STAPLE

DRY GOODS.

NO. 60, MARKET STREET,

Five doors below Scott's Hotel, St. Louis, Mo.

## BROWN & KEY,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN  
Osage Orange Seed and Plants,  
AND

## BUILDERS OF HEDGES,

Glasgow, Mo.

Particular Attention Paid to the Construction of  
Hedges. All Orders promptly attended to.

March.